

## Reagan sends message to Kuwait

KUWAIT (R) — U.S. President Reagan sent a message to Kuwaiti ruler Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah Saturday supporting Kuwait's new effort to end the Gulf war, the Kuwaiti News Agency said. Kuwait, which like other Gulf states has poured millions of dollars into Iraq to finance its war against Iran, has contacted the U.N. Security Council as part of its efforts to bring about an end to the war between Iran and Iraq. Repeated mediation efforts by the United Nations, the Non-Aligned Movement and the Organisation of Islamic Conference have all failed to persuade Tehran's clerical leadership to talk peace with Baghdad.

# Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جوردان تايمز: صحيفة سياسية عربية مستقلة المنشورة من قبل مؤسسة الصحافة الأردنية "الراي"

## May 22 and 25 declared holidays

AMMAN (Petra) — Sunday, May 22, and Wednesday, May 25, will be observed as public holidays in Jordan and all government departments and public institutions will close on both days, according to an official communiqué issued by the Prime Ministry Saturday. It said that May 22 marks the anniversary of Renaissance Day while May 25 is Jordan's Independence and Army Day. Renaissance Day commemorates the first day of the Great Arab Revolt led by Sharif Hussein Ibn Ali of Mecca, His Majesty King Hussein's great grandfather, against Ottoman rule.

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## Blast rocks Israeli tanks

BEIRUT (R) — An explosion rocked two Israeli tanks Saturday morning when they drove through the Beirut suburb of Choueifat but no one was hurt, state-run Beirut Radio said. An Israeli military spokesman said an explosive charge planted beside a road went off as two "heavy vehicles" passed by but caused no damage or casualties. Choueifat lies southeast of Beirut, within about two kilometers of positions held by U.S. Marines deployed in a multinational peacekeeping force in the capital. On Friday, 16 Israeli soldiers were slightly injured when their bus hit a mine in the eastern Bekaa Valley.

## Qadhafi telephones Syrian president

BEIRUT (R) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi telephoned Syrian President Hafez Al Assad Friday to discuss "the current Arab situation and developments in the region," the official Libyan news agency JANA reported Saturday. The JANA report, monitored in Beirut, gave no details. Both Col. Qadhafi and Mr. Assad, two of the most hardline Arab leaders, have proclaimed strenuous opposition to a U.S.-backed plan for the withdrawal of Israeli invasion forces from Lebanon.

## Mubarak thanks President Reagan

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak publicly thanked President Reagan Saturday for his peace drive in the Middle East and said its success was inevitable. Praising what he described as the tremendous efforts of President Reagan and his aides during the past few months, Mr. Mubarak said: "Today I addressed a message to President Ronald Reagan to express our appreciation of his achievements and to welcome U.S. constancy in assuming an active role until all phases of the peace process have been accomplished and its laudable impact extended to the Syrian, Jordanian and Palestinian fronts."

## Moscow rejects Swedish charges

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet government newspaper Izvestia Saturday rejected Swedish government claims that Moscow repeatedly sent its submarines into Swedish waters last October. Izvestia said Sweden's protest to the Soviet Union last month over the alleged violations was an "unfriendly act" and flatly denied the charges.

## Censured Israeli officers will not be promoted

TEL AVIV (R) — Two senior Israeli staff officers strongly criticized by a judicial commission which investigated the massacre of Palestinians in Lebanese refugee camps last September will not be promoted, a Defence Ministry spokesman said Friday. Defence Minister Moshe Arens had informed Maj. Gen. Yehoshua Saguy, former chief of military intelligence, and Lt.-Col. Amos Yaron, the area commander at the time of the massacre, that they will not be given posts they have requested, a spokesman said. The two men were forced to leave their previous posts after being censured by the commission.

## King reiterates Jordan's commitment 'Jordan will continue to work towards peace'

WASHINGTON (Petra) — Jordan will continue its efforts for a just and lasting settlement in the Middle East which would recognise legitimate Palestinian rights to their own homeland, His Majesty King Hussein declared here Saturday.

In an address to the 11th annual conference of the National Association of Arab-Americans (NAAA), read out by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan on his behalf, King Hussein also said that a resolution of the Lebanese conflict "should not be the end, but the means to an overall settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict." Jordan believes that "the time is opportune and the climate propitious" for a comprehensive settlement based on the positive aspect of the Reagan initiative, announced last September, and the Arab peace plan adopted at the Fez summit.

"We in Jordan, believe that the spirit of the Reagan initiative and the Fez peace plan, offers the

broad delineations within which a just and lasting settlement must be found," the King said. "I for my part welcomed the Reagan proposals from the very outset and wanted to see them evolve and develop. They were not perfect, but marked a refreshing change and injected a new impetus into the peace process."

Following is the full text of the King's speech:

I believe it appropriate at this annual convention of the National Association of Arab-Americans to speak of what is an odious phenomenon that affects you, Arab Americans, as much as it concerns us in the Arab World at home. It is that of the stereotype: a bland dictionary definition which is a 'stan-

dardised conception of image invested with special meaning. More often than not, it has other connotations, such as characteristics attributed to a group of people, portraying them as repugnant of unworthy.

I am here to say that you should take pride in your cultural background. You must be as conscious of your ancestors in their countries of origin in the Arab World as you are of being American nationals. Your forebears carried the torch of a glorious civilisation to the four corners of the world in the same manner as Americans raised the torch of liberty and led the world in the field of technology and know-how.

The Arab Nation today may be weak, divided and quarrelsome, yet a cursory look through the pages of history will indicate the contribution Arabs have made to human civilisation in sciences and the arts. We, in Jordan, have watched the birth and development of the National Association of

(Continued on page 3)

## Lebanon decides to sign pact for foreign troop withdrawal

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanon decided Saturday to sign a U.S.-backed agreement on an Israeli troop withdrawal, undeterred by its neighbour Syria's strenuous opposition to the deal.

After two hours studying a final draft, the Lebanese cabinet under President Amin Gemayel approved the accord unanimously, removing any doubts they might be swayed at the last minute. Syria, whose objections could

still scuttle the agreement, said Friday it believed the deal favoured Israel, undermined Lebanese sovereignty and threatened Syrian security.

But a Lebanese cabinet spokesman told reporters: "After a reading of the text of the draft, the cabinet unanimously accepted it. It also decided to authorise the head of the Lebanese (negotiating) delegation to sign it at the appropriate time."

U.S. Israeli and Lebanese teams are to meet Sunday in Netanya to finish translating the final draft into English, French, Arabic and Hebrew, and to set a signing date.

The three delegations began talks on a withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon late last December, but agreement was only sewn up eight days ago after

(Continued on page 3)

## Weinberger warns Soviet Union

NEW YORK (R) — Secretary of Defence Caspar Weinberger has warned the Soviet Union and "proxies it may have in Syria" that any aggression in Lebanon would be met by retaliatory force.

Stressing that he was choosing his words "very carefully," Mr. Weinberger inserted this phrase into a speech he delivered to the American Jewish Committee:

"The Soviet Union is making a profound and dangerous mistake if it thinks by resort to belligerent words and provocative actions, by the obstruction of the Lebanese peace process, it can pressure the United States into a retreat from its commitment to the security of

Israel."

Then in a brief question and answer session that followed the speech he added:

"I want to make it very clear to the Soviets and any proxies they may have in Syria, that any aggression by them would be met by a retaliatory force that would make the aggression totally unwelcome, totally lacking in any hope of gain to the aggressors."

Mr. Weinberger did not say who would be responsible for the retaliatory action but added: "This certainly would be our policy as it is the policy of Israel."

In answer to another question, Mr. Weinberger repeated recent

administration statements of hope that Syria would agree to pull its forces out of Lebanon so that the Israelis could leave as well.

"I think we are reasonably close to a solution," he said.

In the speech, received warmly by about 1,000 delegates to the American Jewish Committee's annual convention, Mr. Weinberger said that increased Soviet military activity in Syria heightened the danger of war between Syria and Israel.

He said that the Soviet Union was increasing its military help to Syria and this made the withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon more difficult.

## Iraq, Iran threaten retaliation for attacks on civilians

BAHRAIN (R) — Iraq and Iran Saturday both threatened retaliation for attacks on civilian targets in the 32-month-old Gulf war.

Iraqi Information Minister Latif Nassif Al Jassem said his country's forces could wipe out Iranian border towns if Tehran insisted on shelling civilian areas, the Iraqi News Agency said Saturday.

Iranian President Ali Khamenei denounced Iraqi attacks this week on the south-western towns of Andimeshk and Dezful and said

Iran would deal "blows on the aggressors," the Iranian News Agency IRNA reported Saturday.

IRNA quoted President Khamenei as telling a congress of the ruling Islamic Republic Party that Iran could make two million Iraqis homeless by shelling towns already within range of its artillery.

IRNA said Friday the death toll from the attacks on Andimeshk and Dezful was at least 26 dead and nearly 200 injured.

The Iraqi news agency said Mr. Jassem issued his warning in res-

ponse to a recent statement by the speaker of the Iranian Majlis (parliament), Hojatoleslam Hashemi Rafsanjani, that Iran could destroy the Iraqi port of Basra.

Mr. Jassem said: "If we resort to threats, like Rafsanjani, we want him to know that Abadan and Muhammara (Khorramshahr) are within reach of our artillery."

"Even if we wanted to destroy other Iranian towns, we could wipe out whole cities from the surface of the earth, but we always take into consideration our legal



His Highness Prince Abdullah bin Al Hussein, the Regent, is briefed Saturday by Natural Resources Authority (NRA) officials on various NRA programmes (Petra photo)

## Prince Abdullah briefed on various NRA programmes

## Jordan to pursue search for oil

AMMAN (Petra) — The Natural Resources Authority (NRA) is pursuing its efforts to prospect for oil in Jordan and has so far drilled three experimental wells for the purpose, according to NRA Vice-President Ahmad Dakhqan.

Mr. Dakhqan said Saturday that at present the NRA is drilling two new wells southwest of Al Azraq in further tests because signs indicate the presence of oil in that region. Also a geological team from Iraq has arrived in Jordan to help NRA technicians conduct seismological surveys in Qatranah in the coming days in the continuing oil-prospecting process. Mr. Dakhqan said.

Mr. Dakhqan was speaking dur-

ing a visit to the NRA headquarters in Amman by His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah bin Al Hussein, the Regent, accompanied by Prime Minister Mudar Badran and Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid.

Recent tests conducted on shale rock in Lejjoun in southern Jordan proved that the country possesses the best-known types of the rock and the Lejjoun reserves of shale are estimated at 1.3 billion tonnes containing some 130 million tonnes of crude oil. Mr. Dakhqan said.

He said that the NRA is currently conducting detailed feasibility studies on the development of copper deposits in

cooperation with foreign specialised firms. The country has now an experimental station with a capacity to mine 3,000 tonnes annually, and has to date produced 680 tonnes of copper ore that has been shipped to Chile for further experiments and studies. Mr. Dakhqan said.

The NRA official also briefed Prince Abdullah on the NRA's activities and programmes in predicting earthquakes in Jordan in cooperation with American experts. The NRA is setting up eight seismological stations in Jordan and the first phase of this project will be completed with the arrival shortly of necessary equipment. Mr. Dakhqan said.

## Damascus publishes Lebanon-Israel pact

DAMASCUS (R) — Syria, saying Arabs must see the harm a planned Lebanese-Israeli troops withdrawal deal will do, Saturday published what it said was the full text of the accord.

Although unconfirmed snippets have been leaked to the press in Lebanon and Israel, the next in Saturday's Syrian government newspaper Tishrin appeared to be the first published version of the full accord.

Lebanese Foreign Minister Elie Salem brought a copy of the draft, which Syrian President Hafez Al Assad said would make Lebanon "an Israeli protectorate," to Damascus two days ago.

The government newspaper said it was publishing the text "so that Arab citizens can realise the harm it will mean to Lebanon's sovereignty and freedom and of course to the security of Syria and the whole Arab Nation."

The text, including appendices and "side papers," took up two pages of the newspaper.

According to the newspaper's text, Israel and Lebanon "emphasise that the state of war between them has ended. Israel undertakes to withdraw its forces from Lebanon."

But it calls for the setting up of a "security arrangements committee" and appendices show this will include Israeli military officers.

They and their Lebanese counterparts will be based in two "centres" of southern Lebanon, outside inhabited areas near Hasbiya and Mayfadoun, according to the appendices.

Neither the text nor the appendices or other "explanatory documents" published in Tishrin specified the number of Israelis who would take part in the security committees.

## Shultz hails Lebanon pact

WASHINGTON (R) — Secretary of State George Shultz has described Israel's troop withdrawal agreement with Lebanon as "a necessary first step" towards enhancing the security of all countries in the Middle East.

In a prepared speech, Mr. Shultz made no mention of Syrian opposition to the accord.

However, in a passage notable for its mild comments on the government of President Hafez Al Assad, he noted that Syria "is a

proud country, and it has legitimate security concerns with respect to Lebanon."

Apparently offering an opening to future warming of U.S.-Syria ties, he said both countries regarded a renewal of contacts and improved relations as in their mutual interest.

Mr. Shultz made his remarks in an address Friday night to the Business Council in Hot Springs, Virginia.

## Alleged supplier of fake Hitler diaries surrender

BONN (R) — The man alleged to have supplied the forged "Hitler diaries" to the West German magazine Stern surrendered to police Saturday, his lawyer said.

Lawyer Rolf Schmidt-Diemitz told Reuters that Konrad Kujau, a Stuttgart dealer in Nazi memorabilia, turned himself in at an unnamed border post Saturday morning "voluntarily and in full

knowledge of the arrest warrant against him."

Stern says Mr. Kujau sold the diaries to its former reporter Gerd Heidemann for nine million marks (\$3.75 million).

The dealer disappeared last Saturday, a day after government experts declared the 60 volumes to be recent forgeries.

## Papandreou: Greece has no claims against Turkey

KOMOTINI, Greece (R) — Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou said Saturday Greece had no claims against Turkey but also had no intention of ceding a single inch of its national territory.

Addressing a mass rally to mark the end of Ottoman rule in this northern city, the prime minister said Greece sincerely desired friendship and peaceful cooperation with the Turkish people and was

working to achieve this. Greece and Turkey, both North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) members, have been at odds over territorial rights and air-space control in the Aegean and over Cyprus. Their disputes have disrupted NATO's southeastern flank.

But Mr. Papandreou said: "Greece has nothing to divide with Turkey."

## Turkey assails U.N. call for Cyprus withdrawal

ANKARA (R) — Turkey Saturday described the United Nations call for the withdrawal of foreign troops from Cyprus as "unbalanced" and hinted there could be "unexpected developments" if Greek Cypriot attitudes continued.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman said the U.N. resolution gravely distorted the facts about Cyprus, which has been divided since a Turkish invasion in 1974, and could seriously hamper the search for a solution to the island's troubles.

The U.N. General Assembly Friday passed a resolution dem-

anding the immediate withdrawal of all occupation forces from Cyprus and for meaningful talks between the Greek and Turkish communities.

The spokesman said: "For the solution of the Cyprus problem, this resolution has no legal or political validity."

The Greek Cypriots' attitude showed they did not sincerely wish for a solution, he said, adding: "It should not be kept from sight, that this attitude of unawareness of the Greek Cypriots, which created grave consequences in the past, could lead to unexpected developments."

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## FEATURES

### Americans search for life in space

By Ronald Clarke  
Reuter

PASADENA, California — U.S. scientists are about to launch their most ambitious search for life in outer space, sweeping the skies with giant antennas for radio signals that may come from other civilisations.

"This will be the most thorough search for other worlds ever mounted," the project scientist at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), Michael Klein, said.

As a first step, a van equipped with a prototype of a radio scanner, known as a multi-channel spectrum analyser, will be based in the Mojave Desert of California this summer for tests.

It will scan 64,000 frequencies at a time for radio waves reaching the earth.

Over the next four or five years, the equipment will be expanded until it scans a vast 10 million frequencies at a time, Klein said.

The full project of NASA should then begin — to sweep the entire sky and also concentrate on 773 stars within 80 light years of earth which resemble the sun sufficiently to make the evolution of life on a nearby planet possible.

Noises from the sweep will be fed into a computer programmed to search for repetitive signals or other odd manifestations.

Any intriguing signals that last for more than a minute will set off an alarm to alert the scientist on duty on the project, called SETI (Search for Extra-Terrestrial Intelligence).

Asked about the chances of finding life in outer space, Klein said: "Some people think it is so small as to be impossible and others say it is so high as to be very probable. The answer lies somewhere in between."

The NASA budget for this year allocates \$1.5 million for the project, and spending is expected to continue at a rate of between \$1.5 million and \$2 million for the next five years.

"We have to search through the din of man-made communications, including microwave ovens and radar, for possibly a weak signal coming from a great distance," he said.

"A form of life in outer space could be 100 light years or even 1,000 light years away. The nearest stars are four light years away."

Another project scientist, Samuel Gulkis, said speed was essential to the project. "Radio frequency interference is rapidly worsening," he said. "If we wait much longer to search for extra-terrestrial intelligence, we will have to go into space to do it."

The venture was all but killed last year when Senator William Proxmire, a Wisconsin Democrat known for waging wars on what he considers useless projects, blocked an allocation of \$6 million in the NASA budget for the search.

"It's hard enough to find intelligent life in Washington, let alone in outer space," Proxmire said.

When NASA reduced its request this year to \$1.5 million, Proxmire relented.

Costs will be kept down by using giant radio antennas already set up at Goldstone, California, outside Madrid and at Tidbinbilla, near Canberra, for the project.

Klein said when the tests are completed the scientists will go to NASA with results to seek funds for the project itself. "We are talking of between \$30 and \$50 million spread over several years for the entire programme," he said. "It is not a huge project."

The U.S. National Academy of Science also issued a report supporting a search for life in outer space.

"Astronomy has shown there are enormous numbers of stars like the sun and that the abundances of chemical elements are much the same everywhere," the report said.

"It seems possible, therefore, that there are habitats for life scattered throughout the universe".

Some scientists have also opposed the project because of the lack of evidence of life in outer space and the vast distances involved.

But seven Nobel Prize winners and 62 other scientists from a dozen countries published a letter in Science Magazine last October calling for a coordinated, worldwide and systematic search for extra-terrestrial intelligence.

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### Foreigners prefer to invest in U.S.

By Kevin Cooney  
Reuter

NEW YORK — Pushed by political fears, dwindling investment opportunities and lack of incentives at home, foreigners are investing hundreds of millions of dollars in Manhattan real estate.

There are 14 office towers under construction in lower Manhattan. Ten of them are being built with foreign money.

Howard Ronson, an English property developer who has put up five skyscrapers in recent years, said: "You can explain the movement of investment dollars here with one word, fear. People are afraid of losing their wealth to Socialist governments."

Over the past four years, investors from Canada, Britain, Europe and Hong Kong have made substantial profits and have had a major impact on the shape of the city.

Chinese characters cover the carved Hebraic lettering on the old Daily Forward Building, once a centre of Jewish life on Manhattan's lower east side.

Italian investors are spending \$6 million to restore Delmonico's, a high society restaurant at the turn of the century, and built modern offices above it.

Hong Kong bankers own the Playboy Club building.

It is impossible to assess the extent of such investments as many of those involved would face difficulties at home if their activities became known.

Ronson says British investors alone "have sent quite a few billion dollars to the United States for real estate investment over the past few years."

Foreign investment in U.S. real estate grew by about \$1 billion between 1980 and 1981, according to government figures. But

it says the true amount is probably much higher.

Richard Rosan, who is president of the New York Realty Board, a trade organisation, said he cannot trace the owners of Manhattan property who do not want their investments known.

"A corporation is formed in Switzerland, with a post office box as an address. Money moves through the Dutch antilles. We are left with the name of some local lawyer."

"In the past two or three years, 100,000 Frenchmen have become involved in U.S. real-estate, though I couldn't pinpoint a single name."

Of property purchases known, most have been made by Canadians. "They have been moving here because of investment opportunities," said Alan Simon, president of Sinclair, Goldsmith, Price, the U.S. branch of London Realty Concerns.

Simon agrees that fear of Socialism is a primary motivation for foreign investment here. The most immediate fear is the reintroduction of currency controls as people are afraid they will not be able to get their money out, he said.

"The U.S. is the safest place in the world to invest, politically and economically," he said. He recalls Olympia York's purchase of Uris Properties in 1977. It involved the sale of eight Manhattan skyscrapers for \$50 million with \$280 million in mortgages.

The value of properties in that deal is now estimated to have increased more than tenfold. There are no such opportunities in either Canada or Europe, Simon said.

Foreign investors have been helped by the high cost of borrowing in the U.S. which has weakened American competition, the experts said.

But now that interest rates are falling, Americans are returning to the market and the move of European money into real estate will be a little slower.

"There is more money available now and this should have a negative effect on European investment here," Simon said, adding that because of different ways of doing business many Europeans will not be able to compete effectively.

"Europeans are slower at doing things," he said. "They don't know the market... they have boards of directors who take their responsibilities very seriously and if it takes days, weeks or months to make a decision it simply can't work."

"All major American real estate men see an opportunity and seize it and don't have to report to anyone," Simon said.

Ronson said neither lower interest rates nor a high-valued dollar would stop the trend.

"No European country can compete with the U.S. when it comes to getting something accomplished, getting a building put up. Here, I can put up a building in a year, I can't tell you how long it would take in Europe."

The latest group to join the investment trend has been the Hong Kong Chinese, faced with China's threat to reclaim the thriving British colony when the lease expires in 1997.

"There is a new generation of Chinese businessmen in charge of family concerns," Rosan said. "They have business degrees and they see the need not to keep all their money in one place."

Roson believes that investors from Hong Kong, Canada and Europe will continue to expand their Manhattan holdings and he offers a simple explanation.

"They like it here," he said.

### Cool U.S.-Chinese ties will not hamper art exhibition

By Arthur Spiegelman  
Reuter

NEW YORK — A frost that suddenly cooled U.S.-Chinese cultural relations because of a teenage tennis star's defection will not stop an ambitious exhibition of Chinese art from opening this month in San Francisco.

As a result, San Francisco's Asian Art Museum is removing its own Chinese art treasures to make room for 332 works from the Shanghai Museum of Art — paintings, pottery, bronzes and jades that have never been shown outside China.

"Would you believe, we are sending our treasures to Hong Kong for display there so that we can show the Shanghai's treasures

in our museum," San Francisco Museum Director Yvon d'Arge said during a recent visit to New York.

China earlier last month cancelled government cultural and sports exchanges with the United States after the Reagan administration granted asylum to 19-year old defecting tennis star Hu Na.

The Chinese were especially bitter about the decision, accusing the U.S. government of interfering in its internal affairs.

According to d'Arge, the cultural freeze initiated by China applies only to government-to-government exchanges and not "people-to-people" ones.

The San Francisco exhibit was arranged directly between the

Shanghai and Asian Art Museums because the two cities have been "sister cities" since 1980, and the \$3 million needed for the exhibit was raised privately, with major financial backing coming from the Control Data Corporation.

The exhibition will be only the third major display of art from China since relations improved between the two countries in 1975.

While not the biggest, it is the most sweeping — with pieces ranging from 40 years to 6,000 years old.

"The idea was to show the entire sweep of Chinese art, to show how it developed, how one form led to another and we had a wonderful choice of objects to do that," d'Arge said.

The choice of the 232 objects in the exhibit was made from more than 100,000 works of art in the Shanghai Museum.

D'Arge spent weeks at the Museum drawing up a "dream" list and with only a few exceptions that list was approved.

The exhibit, titled "Treasures from the Shanghai Museum," will be shown at the San Francisco Museum for five months starting May 4.

Then it will go for three-month periods to Chicago's Field Museum of Natural History, the Museum of Fine Arts in Houston, and the Smithsonian in Washington.

Among highlights are a 6,000-year old three-legged clay jug and 66 tiny pottery soldiers, horsemen, female slaves and chair

bearers from an honour guard discovered in a Ming Dynasty tomb.

There is also a "magic bronze mirror" whose polished surface projects a reflection of the decorative design on its back when exposed to direct light, and what is being billed as "the amazing bronze water spouting basin."

The basin, from the 14th century Ming Dynasty, can send water in it splashing upwards with a mere rub of the handles. The rub produces a sound agitating the water until it spurts.

"The great thing about Chinese art is that the objects were buried in tombs so that the deceased could feel at home in the next world, just like the Egyptians did. So in China, all you have to do is put a spade down to find something," d'Arge said.

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## ME NEWS

### Helsinki meeting condemns Israel

AMMAN (Petra) — A conference on population settlements held in Helsinki has condemned Israel's repressive measures in the occupied Arab territories, its inhuman practices against the Arab population and its plans to evict them from their homeland, according to the head of the Jordanian delegation to the conference, Mr. Hassan Al Momani.

Mr. Momani, who is also Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment, said that the delegates recommended that a special team be charged with studying the conditions of the Palestinian people under Israel.

They also called on the United Nations (U.N.) to impose penalties on Israel for its illegal activities and for its non cooperation with the U.N. fact-finding missions visiting the region.

Delegates from 100 countries attending the conference saw two documentary films one on Jordan's housing projects and the other on Israel's settlement programmes in the confiscated Arab regions, Mr. Momani said.

The minister was accompanied by Housing Corporation Director-General Hamdullah Al Nabulsi, and Dr. Mahdi Al Farhan, general manager of the Cities and Villages Development Bank.



Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Hassan Al Momani (left) speaks with a news reporter Saturday upon his arrival back in Amman after attending a seminar on population settlements held in Helsinki (Petra photo)

### Algeria talks criticise Arab heritage violations

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Culture and Youth Ma'an Abu Nowar returned to Amman Friday evening after attending a meeting of Arab ministers of culture and youth in Algeria.

The Arab delegates expressed their indignation and voiced their anxiety over Israel's practices in the occupied Arab territories and Lebanon and its violations of human rights and cultural institutions which is in total disregard to all international laws, the minister said.

Delegates to the meeting drew to the attention of world public opinion and interested international organisations the seriousness of the Israeli practices,

and the damage Israel is causing to the Arab and Islamic heritage, the minister added.

They also sent a memorandum to UNESCO expressing their appreciation for its efforts in trying to salvage the heritage centres in Jerusalem, and its plans to preserve the archaeological and holy sites in the occupied Arab land.

The ministers later issued recommendations and resolutions designed to promote the Arab theatre and arts in general, calling on Arab states to organise a seminar in which intellectuals can submit ideas to revitalise the cultural movement in the Arab World.

### Land dept. receipts rise

AMMAN (Petra) — The revenues amassed by the Land and Survey Department (LASD) during the month of April 1983 totalled JD 2,153,000 compared to JD 2,069,000 in April 1982, LASD Director-General Badr Al Mulqi announced Thursday.

### Taher releases new airport phone numbers

AMMAN (Petra) — Communications Ministry Under-Secretary Hashem Al Taher announced that the Queen Alia International Airport has now been linked to the telephone switchboard. The telephone numbers serving the airport will be 52627-8 and 52603-8, he also stated.

### RSS prepares feasibility study on Libyan livestock breeding....

AMMAN (Petra) — The Royal Scientific Society (RSS) has prepared a study on the technical and economic feasibility of livestock breeding in Libya. The study was prepared by a team of experts working with the Arab League sponsored Arab Organisation for Agricultural Development (AOAD).

The RSS team's economic expert Ahmad Qasem Al Ahmad said that the six-week-long study comprised of field visits of 29 cattle-raising stations in Libya, the collection of information and data from a number of livestock projects to assess their technical and economic viability and a study on the feasibility of providing Libya

with dairy and meat products.

The RSS's contribution is part of its effort to extend its consultative services to Arab and international institutions both in making studies and in applying its research.

The RSS delegation returned to Amman Friday evening.

### ... hosts seminar on construction methods, experience in Hungary

By a Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A seminar was held Saturday by the Hungarian engineering group and stressed one of the BRC's main aims of developing the mutual transfer of technical data.

The seminar, which was held at the Professional Association Complex in Amman, was under the patronage of the Royal Scientific Society's Buildings Research Centre (BRC).

The seminar was opened by the

RSS's representative Dr. Ezzeddin Kakhoda who welcomed the Hungarian engineering group and stressed one of the BRC's main aims of developing the mutual transfer of technical data.

"The centre has always built bridges of communication with other similarly minded institutions, scientists and researchers in order to develop the mutual transfer of technical data," Dr. Kakhoda said.

Four Hungarian lecturers presented working papers during the seminar. Dr. Karoly Lederer, who

is the managing director of Transinvest, explained Hungarian transport policy followed by the Deputy Director of the Hungarian Institute for Transport Sciences Dr. Timar Andras who explained the approach to road network development in Hungary.

The third speaker, during the seminar was Dr. Kemes Arzen, who is the counsellor of the Hungarian state railways.

Dr. Arzen discussed the Hungarian state railway network and its new developments.

### Experts study future Arab scientific research projects

AMMAN (Petra) — The Arab Scientific Committee for Health, the Environment and Housing opened a two-day meeting in Amman Saturday to study plans for scientific research in the Arab World between 1984 and 1986.

The committee was set up by the Baghdad-based Arab Union of Scientific Research Councils (AUSRC) and comprises of delegates from 14 Arab states including Jordan.

Addressing the delegates who were gathered at the Royal Scientific Society, Dr. Nizar Al Shawi AUSRC's secretary-general out-

lined the union's role in promoting the work of Arab scientific research centres, and the seminars and training programmes it aims to organise for this purpose.

The committee will discuss 87 of its planned scientific activities in the fields of health, the environment, and housing and the arrangements for their application

throughout the Arab World. The subjects to be discussed include desertification, soil erosion, housing problems in rural regions, and ways of preserving natural resources in Arab countries along with problems pertaining to family welfare, health matters, the manufacture of pharmaceutical products and the protection of environment from pollution.

Qatar, Iraq, Sudan, Morocco, Syria, Tunisia, Algeria, Libya, North Yemen, the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Palestine and Jordan are all represented at the meeting.

### Chinese team arrives for visit

AMMAN (Petra) — A delegation representing the national political committee of the People's Republic of China (PRC) arrived here Saturday for a five-day visit to Jordan.

The four member delegation will hold talks with Jordanian officials and will tour the country's archaeological sites.

The delegation was met upon its arrival in Amman by the National Consultative Council's Speaker Suleiman Arar and several NCC members.

### Tal inaugurates scout exhibition

IRBID (Petra) — Minister of Education Sa'id Al Tal opened here Saturday an exhibition put on by scouts at the new girls preparatory school in Irbid.

On display during the three-day show are samples of the simple equipment used in scouting activities, plus paintings and photographs depicting Jordanian scenery.

Irbid Mayor Abdul Razzaq Tubeishat and directors of government departments also attended the opening ceremony.

### Westinghouse to supply railway signal system

AMMAN (J.T.) — The British firm Westinghouse Saturday signed an agreement with the Aqaba Railway Corporation (ARC) to import and install equipment for a new signal system to help improve the operational ability of the trains that transport phosphate for export from the port of Aqaba.

The new signal system is included in the ARC's five-year plan which, when implemented, will raise the amount of phosphate transported to Aqaba by rail to 3.75 million tonnes from the present amount of 2.7 million tonnes annually.

The agreement was signed by ARC Director Sahi Hamzeh and a Westinghouse representative.

### Marriott to arrange road race

AMMAN (J.T.) — To mark Jordan's independence day, a road race sponsored by Amman Marriott Hotel will be held on May 20.

A press conference will be held Sunday at the Marriott Hotel to announce the details of the road race which is to be run over 10 thousand metres.

The press conference, which will be held at 11:30 a.m., will be given by the Marriott General Manager Hali Aguililar, Mr. Michael Hamameh, director-general of the Department of Tourism and an official from the army headquarters who will help organise the race.

### Ministries change opening hours

AMMAN (J.T.) — All government departments and public institutions will from now on open for business at 8:00 a.m. and finish at 2 p.m. instead of opening at 8:30 a.m. and closing at 2:30 p.m., according to an official com-

muniqué issued by the prime minister's office.

It said that other public services, restaurants, bakeries, stores and other businesses will continue to open and close according to the nature of their business.

# King reiterates Jordan's commitment to peace efforts

(Continued from page 1)

Arab-Americans with expectation. We indeed feel privileged to have supported this movement from its early beginnings.

The odium of cultural victimisation cannot be easily resolved, yet it is less complex than that of the political stereotype. Arabs have, in general, been labelled as "war mongers" for too long. Ironically, Jordan and I personally have recently been singled out as "obstacles to peace." What is not appreciated, particularly where it matters — in the corridors of power — is that for the last 16 years, a fundamental reversal of roles has transformed the nature of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

It is a fair assertion that the road from Khartoum, the venue of the Arab summit conference in 1967, to Khaldie, one of the sites of the recent negotiations in the Lebanon, has been littered with opportunities, missed largely due to Israeli intransigence. Over the central issue of the Palestine question, it is the Israeli premier, Mr. Begin and not President Nasser's successors in Egypt who stands firm on the three no's: no recognition, no negotiations and no peace. It is the Israeli premier and not I who vehemently opposed and rejected the Reagan peace initiative of September 1982, and even accused, his fellow countrymen of treason were they to consider it as the basis for Middle East peace.

It is after 16 years and two more wars, in 1973 and 1982, that the corner-stone for the peace we all seek remains U.N. Resolution 242. I contributed directly to the formulation of that resolution, which was reaffirmed in the disengagement agreements of 1974 between Egypt, Syria and Israel respectively. U.N. Resolution 338, which called for that disengagement in 1973, was based on 242, the spirit of which should have been reaffirmed in words and deeds in the Camp David accords and President Reagan's initiative. Israel has flouted every provision of Resolution 242.

Under the provisions of 242 and 338, Israel was offered recognition and security within its own borders. The Arabs, in return, sought the restoration of occupied territories, including Arab Jerusalem. Israel refused to comply. The peace treaty with Egypt in 1979 led to the evacuation of Israeli troops from Sinai, but its formulation and implementation

over the last four years has been a step back from the provisions of U.N. resolutions which called for a comprehensive settlement.

We had no quarrel with the statement made by President Sadat in the Knesset in 1977, but the Egypt-first approach, adopted at Camp David, has seriously damaged the expectations of comprehensive peace. The strategic balance was shifted in favour of Israel as a direct result of the neutralisation of Egypt. A triumphant Israel, consolidating its role of policeman in the Middle East, has sapped Arab political will to act constructively — to the detriment of American-Arab friendship and interests.

Israeli leaders claimed, 16 years ago, that they did not covet one foot of Arab territory. Today, they dominate the West Bank, employing vestitive Biblical arguments to claim it as an exclusive and integral part of historic Israel. They may, no doubt, evolve similar claims, the Gaza and the Golan Heights, and if withdrawal is thwarted again in the 'north bank' of southern Lebanon, Israel's apologists could not continue to reiterate Israel's desire to live in peace with its Arab neighbours. They disregard the fact that by military annexation, Israel refuses to co-exist on anything short of its own terms.

It was not mere coincidence that while the Arabs were engaged in energetic efforts to evolve a peace formula, which crystallised in the Fez peace plan, Israel chose to seek peace in Galilee by going to war in Lebanon. The objective, *inter alia* was to shatter the emerging Arab peace consensus. The Israeli public was stricken by doubts on the validity, as well as the morality, of this protracted campaign.

We, in Jordan, believe that the spirit of the Reagan initiative and the Fez peace plan, offers the broad delineations within which a just and lasting settlement must be found. For my part welcomed the Reagan proposals from the very outset and wanted to see them evolve and develop. They were not perfect, but marked a refreshing change and injected a new impetus into the peace process.

We welcome and appreciate the president's perception of the Palestine questions as 'the root cause' of the conflict. We noted with keen interest his interpretation of the Camp David provisions on the status of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, to be essentially part of the Arab patrimony. The omission of

a link between Israel's security needs and the recognition of Arab legitimate rights in Palestine and unfortunate although the president called for a freeze on the construction of settlements and movement in the areas under Israeli occupation, the Palestinian people are concerned that he did not re-affirm the illegality of acquisition of territory by force.

While keeping our Jordanian-Palestinian family aware of the time constraint caused by rapid changes in the occupied territories, I have tried to attract international attention to the plight of the Palestinian people. An essential dialogue with the PLO was embarked on, in accordance with their role as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people — determined by the Rabat summit of 1974.

Our goal is plainly and simply the restoration of Arab rights in Arab lands occupied in June 1967. Our Palestinian interlocutors are also concerned about the future status of the occupied territories, to have been predetermined by the Reagan plan as self-government linked to Jordan. I led the seven-nation committee, set up in the wake of the Fez summit, to four capitals of the five permanent member states of the U.N. Security Council, and personally visited Washington, to inform them of the Arab consensus on a peaceful settlement. I also engaged in a dialogue to establish a Jordanian-Palestinian accommodation, with Arab support, having been assured by the United States that it would do its utmost to indicate to both Arabs and Israelis that decisive measures are undertaken to make the president's approach serious and effective.

While the administration in Washington anticipated our positive response, the Arab World felt outraged by increasing Israeli intransigence and provocation. The Soviets, feeling excluded from the peace process, made their opposition known. Moderate Arab opinion felt intimidated and was further dismayed by the outcome of the Palestine National Council meeting at Algiers.

In the meantime, it appeared as though aggression has been rewarded and moderation punished. When a House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Sub-Committee voted to make future arms sales to Jordan contingent on our willingness to join the Camp David peace negotiations and to grant diplomatic recognition to Israel.

While American assistance to Jordan for fiscal year 1984 is about \$100 million, the same sub-committee added \$365 million to President Reagan's request for \$2.55 billion in economic and military aid to Israel for the same year. These measures have undermined the peace-making process initiated by the president.

Gradually, the Jordan-PLO dialogue has lost its momentum. My faith in the president's resolve and his unquestionable good intentions remains strong. I believe the administration concurs that the United States should not initiate a policy which it cannot implement. The risks are too high and the repercussions are extremely dangerous; for what is at stake is American credibility, not just in the Middle East, but throughout the world. The recent visit by Secretary of State Shultz to the area is a clear indication that the president intends to persevere in spite of the difficulties encountered so far. Though our joint efforts have been thwarted for the time being, it should go without saying, that our commitment to peace with dignity is paramount.

Israel's quest for power and dominance in our region seems boundless. A hard-line Israeli security concept and strategy for the eighties is based not simply on the destruction of the corporate nature of the Arab people of Palestine, but also on the fragmentation of the Arab Nation into ineffectual warring tribes of ethnic and religious-sectarian groupings. As a descendant of the leader of the Great Arab Revolt, I shall continue to endeavour to preserve Arab unity, as you must do in your own ranks.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

You are familiar with the slogan, "Jordan is Palestine". Today, the Palestinians want their own homeland. Zionist extremists are offering them Jordan as an alternative. Is it not strange that the Palestinians are not making that demand, but the Zionist are? Of course, that is because the Palestinians have a country of their own, which cannot be confused with Jordan.

The advertisements which have recently appeared in some of the leading American papers may be dismissed as a mere contrivance and a gimmick, but for their sinister implications. The claim has no substance in history or law. Indeed, it contradicts earlier Israeli assertions that there were no

Palestinians; the people were 'southern Syrians', we were told.

Today we are told, there are Palestinians, and their right to self-determination should be exercised in Jordan. It is a peculiar kind of logic that led Zionist spokesmen to such conclusions. Germany has been able to settle 20 million refugees, but Germany remains Germany. I am not going to hazard a guess as to the millions the United States has absorbed over the years, but I believe the United States is still the United States — unless you know otherwise.

It is rather a serious matter. In history, Jordan has always been distinct from Palestine. We border the Jordan Rift Valley, the longest of its kind in the world, and geology, if nothing else, dictates that it is the western and not the eastern bank that is Palestine.

In law, Jordan was excluded from the provisions of the Balfour Declaration, almost as soon as hostilities were terminated, at the end of the Great War. At the peace conference, Zionist lobbying for the inclusion of parts of Jordan and southern Lebanon, on economic grounds, within the boundaries of Palestine, was rejected. It was at the same conference in 1919, that my great uncle, Faisal I, called for self-determination in Palestine.

Our association with Palestine is deep and long. The Palestinians are as aware of the fact that our destinies have been intertwined, as we are. In 1950, the unity of the two banks of the Jordan came about as a result of the exercise of the right of self-determination by the Palestinians, and the integration of two distinct entities, to

make up the state. The Jordanian Parliament, representing both banks, made it clear that union did not mean the relinquishment of existing Arab rights and claims in Palestine, pending a final settlement of the dispute. Jordan has felt a serious responsibility toward the Arabs of Palestine. In the wake of the 1967 occupation of Arab territories, the right of self-determination has been denied to the Palestinians by Israel. It is noteworthy that Israeli leaders have proposed the alternative homeland slogan in reaction to international recognition of Palestinian rights, although Israel did not dissent from the declaration on general principles of international law adopted by the General Assembly in 1970, without vote. We are deeply committed to a peace process that would recognise legitimate Palestinian rights to their own homeland.

Time is running extremely short. The situation is growing ever more desperate. The physical and demographic changes introduced by the Israeli authorities in the occupied areas threaten the very existence of the Palestinian people there. The mood of desperation must be redressed. The world has to recognise that the principal constituency that needs immediate protection is those Palestinians under Israeli occupation. We seek your assistance, Americans of all political persuasions, to make an unequivocal commitment to a broader peace process. Our vital interests will have to be defended whereby extremists are unable to dictate the future course of events. Our region is threatened by strident populist radicalism of various shades of political opinion.

We shall continue our effort in the search for a just and lasting settlement in the Middle East. It must be a comprehensive peace, so that the energies of all the parties concerned, particularly the Palestinians, could be directed towards creative endeavours. A resolution of the Lebanese question, important as it is, should not be the end, but the means, to an overall settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict. We believe the time is opportune and the climate propitious for such a settlement. However, Israelis must abandon their siege mentality and accept to live in the region as partners, and not overlords or masters.

We call upon you to reach out to all decent Americans for the establishment of a peace lobby. We need a constituency — a bipartisan body — as advocated by former presidents Gerald Ford and Jimmy Carter, and for which President Reagan has indicated the way to promote and support peace moves, rather than fan the flames of constant war. A peace constituency cannot evolve without a factual representation of the dangers that beset our Near East region. In this pursuit, I urge all concerned members of Congress and the Senate to visit Jordan, to acquaint themselves with the facts, and to interact in sharing the joint responsibility we bear in making a lasting Middle Eastern peace a reality. Time is of the essence, and I trust, Ladies and Gentlemen, that this invitation can be accepted and acted upon with the sense of urgency with which it has been extended.

Jordan is for world peace, with

hout which none of us can hope for prosperity or a better standard of living for our peoples. Our vision of the resourceful people in the Middle East, the cradle of civilisation, contributing fully to human betterment, has yet to be dimmed.

We belong to the pragmatic school of our forebears, which in no way dilutes our idealism or dedication to the cause in which we believe. Of the present and the future, our basic aim is summarised in the words of Franklin Roosevelt to the representatives of the first United Nations conference (on food and agriculture in 1943):

"...it is to build for ourselves, for all men, a world in which each individual human being shall have the opportunity to live out his life in peace; to work productively, earning at least enough for his actual needs and those of his family; to associate with the friends of his choice; to think and worship freely; and to die secure in the knowledge that his children, and their children, shall have the same opportunity."

We count on you, the National Association of Arab-Americans, to act as a link; a cultural bridge, between the Arab World and the United States, to promote and articulate the vital interests of your country, the United States, in our part of the globe.

You should acquaint and familiarise the great American public, which is world-known for its love and appreciation of justice and liberty, with our tangible hopes and aspirations, so as to obtain a settlement which preserves the dignity of man.

Thank you.

### Lebanon decides to sign pact

(Continued from page 1)

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz shuttled between Lebanon and Israel for two weeks.

Implementation is still in doubt, however, because Israel reserves the right not to pull out its 25,000-strong invasion force unless 40,000 Syrian troops and 6,000 to 8,000 Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) fighters also go.

Syria apparently feels the agreement, which President Hafez Al Assad said would turn Lebanon into an Israeli protectorate, does not meet its conditions for withdrawal.

It objects to clauses which, according to Lebanese government sources, allow a small number of Israeli soldiers to remain in Lebanon on joint border patrols with the Lebanese army. It says the accord amounts to a peace treaty which awards Israel gains from its invasion.

But Lebanese officials say it is not a peace treaty and does not normalise relations with Israel. Syria has not suggested a viable alternative, they add.

The cabinet spokesman said the ministers had decided to seek the opinion of the Lebanese parliament, which is due to discuss the deal Monday.

But political sources said this was a courtesy gesture and the assembly was unlikely to vote on it.

Under emergency powers at present in force, the cabinet rules by decree on a wide range of key matters and does not need parliamentary approval.

The cabinet noted that President Gemayel, Prime Minister Shafiq Al Wazzan and Foreign Minister Elie Salem would head a team to "follow up contacts with the Syrian government in order to strengthen relations" between them, the spokesman said.

After clinching the withdrawal agreement, Mr. Shultz said the

next step was for Lebanon to open talks with Syria and the PLO on a withdrawal of their forces, although he acknowledged these would be very difficult and would take some time.

The cabinet also decided to send ministers to several Arab countries to set out Lebanon's position and explain the agreement, the cabinet spokesman said.

Syria has said the accord is contrary to Arab interests, but some Arab countries have indicated they are willing to accept it. Earlier Saturday, Mr. Salem called in Arab ambassadors in Beirut to brief them on the agreement.



# Jordan Times

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## An opportunity in oil

PLANNERS in OPEC member states face 1983 with a \$117.68 billion shortfall in revenues over a two-year period due to changes in the demand for and the price of oil. OPEC members as a group experienced a \$47.16 billion drop in oil revenues in 1982 as the volume of exports receded by about 23 per cent from their 1981 level. This lower level of revenue due to loss of sales will most likely continue through 1983, as exports are not expected to increase much above their 1982 level. Add to this a \$23.36 billion loss of revenue caused by the five-dollar reduction in the price of a barrel of oil that will probably apply to 1983 oil exports, and one arrives at the figure of \$117.68 billion for 1982 and 1983.

Doubtless such a shortfall confronts OPEC members with a situation that departs significantly from the one they were getting used to—namely, increasing revenues financing high rates of expenditure. That situation had led, among other things, to consumption patterns alien to the life style of the vast majority of the people of the region and to a consumerist mentality with its tendency to waste resources as typified in the concept of built-in obsolescence. The present oil market conditions necessitate a review of the economic and social developments of the last ten years as well as ideas and attitudes conducive to arriving at an economic scheme more in line with the realities of Arab society and its long-term aspirations. This would be exemplified in a stable and secure economic life based on a productive national economic structure, which it is to be hoped, would lead to greater economic self-sufficiency within a more even distribution of international trade.

To rationalise expenditure will entail first and foremost a careful re-examination of the costs and benefits involved in all major expenditure projects adopted in the last several years. The aim would be to re-evaluate their suitability to the manpower and market potential of the region and to weigh the need for the income generated from the exports of a particular industry against the social costs involved. Also required would be the rationalisation of all public and private consumption. On the other hand, great efforts should be expended to rationalise production and to raise the productivity of citizens both in the private and in the public sector. Extraordinary efforts will be needed at that stage in light of the pervasiveness of special interests and large institutions which encourage and propagate foreign modes of consumption among the traditional societies of the region.

The Arab oil exporting countries should use the contraction in oil revenues as an opportunity to put an end to waste and to rationalise the stream of imports that most of their citizens demand. They should start in earnest to coordinate their actions so as gradually to achieve self-sufficiency based on regional cooperation and, more broadly, on South-South cooperation.

— OPEC Bulletin

## ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

### Al Ra'i: Respect Lebanon's decision

SYRIA has reaffirmed its rejection of the U.S.-sponsored accord on Lebanon. While the agreement reached is certainly not the best alternative from Lebanon's point of view it is the best it could get under the present circumstances that dominate the region. On considering priorities the Lebanese negotiators chose to preserve Lebanon's unity. Hence, it is illogical to say that the accord is a great Lebanese victory. On the other hand, it is unreasonable to say that the Lebanese negotiators have sacrificed the country's interests to reach such an agreement. The best description that can be given to the Lebanese position is that it is a necessity resulting from the existence of no positive alternative that guarantees a complete unconditional withdrawal of the Israeli forces.

The Lebanese tragedy cannot be separated from the situation prevailing in the Arab World. Indeed this situation was a major factor in worsening the Lebanese crisis. The Lebanese's choice of position is thus a right that should not be denied it by any other Arab country, as Lebanon is the country which has suffered most from the Israeli occupation. It is true that Syria does not mean to help Israel keep its forces in Lebanon. But the Syrian opposition to the accord will be used as the main excuse by Israel to maintain a further presence in Lebanon. If Syria has the right not to approve of the U.S.-sponsored accord, it does not have the right to force such reality on Lebanon.

### Al Dustour: Only part of the problem

THE Lebanese foreign minister has urged the Arab Nation to do all in its capacity to help Lebanon in the present crucial situation. Washington has announced that U.S. efforts to convince Syria to withdraw its forces from Lebanon will continue. A Lebanese source said that Syria has linked its withdrawal from Lebanon with American guarantees to secure an Israeli withdrawal from the Syrian Golan Heights. This testifies to the inseparability of the Lebanese problem from the many other aspects of the Middle-East conflict. It also demonstrates that a search for peace and justice in the Middle East is futile as long as it refrains from dealing with the essence of the Middle East conflict, namely the Israeli occupation of the West Bank, Gaza and the Golan Heights. Hence, we can hardly call the U.S.-sponsored accord on Lebanon a great American success.

We believe that the U.S. has other duties in the Middle East rather than simply to urge the Syrians to withdraw their forces from Lebanon. A Lebanese settlement should be the opening to a long path for the establishment of a comprehensive peace in the whole region, based on international legitimacy and on the principle of the inadmissibility of seizing other people's land by force. The U.S. is called upon to present to the Syrians a serious initiative outlining the U.S. view on future Israeli withdrawals. While we are against the indulgence of the Arab World in the superpowers' struggle, all good international efforts for establishing a just and durable peace based on international legitimacy must be welcome.

# How far is the next Mideast war?

By Harvey Morris  
 Reuter

LONDON — Israeli and Syrian warnings about the dangers of a new Middle East war have grown more ominous in the past week.

Accusations by one side that the other was preparing to attack had, until a week ago, been overlooked in a growing mood of optimism that U.S.-sponsored efforts to remove foreign troops from Lebanon were at last succeeding.

The U.S. bid resulted last weekend in an agreement between Israel and Lebanon on the withdrawal of Israeli troops. But the deal is still threatened by Syria's rejection of the terms.

Western military analysts believe neither side seeks a new war. Syria because it is militarily weaker than its adversary, and Israel in view of domestic concern about the Israeli lives already lost since the invasion of Lebanon a year ago.

But they say that, as long as the

troops withdrawal question remains unresolved, there is an ever-present danger that a war could start by accident between forces in such close proximity.

Beirut says it is ready to sign the agreement with Israel and the architect of the accord, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, says he is confident Syria will order its forces home.

But Damascus, publicly at least, is insisting that the deal includes too many concessions to Israel and that its forces will stay in place. The Israeli pullout meanwhile remains conditional on the withdrawal of some 40,000 Syrian troops and 6,000 to 8,000 Palestinian guerrillas based in northern Lebanon.

The most direct war warning from Damascus came this week in a state radio commentary that declared: "Any Israeli aggression against Syria would mean an unlimited war."

Israel responded, in a statement by Foreign Minister Yitzhak Sha-

mir "we hope that Syria, too, despite the statements of provocation and deception, will prefer the way of stability ...

"If things develop differently and it becomes impossible to prevent a threat to Israel, then Israel will be free to act according to its interests."

Military analysts believe both standpoints contain an element of bluff, with each side trying to convince the other that it has too much to lose to start a war. Each side has accused the other of a military build-up, with the Israelis alleging a growing involvement of Soviet personnel on the Syrian side.

An Israeli intelligence report on the Soviet involvement, claiming that 4,000 Soviet advisers were working with the Syrian army, was leaked to the press at the end of last month.

Israeli papers quoted intelligence chief Ehud Barak as saying the Syrians had 3,700 tanks, including 800 Soviet T-72s, and

that their firepower was now greater than before last year's Lebanon war, when Israel destroyed 85 Syrian planes.

Soviet personnel have since been said to be manning Syria's new SAM-5 missile batteries, the first to be installed outside the Eastern Bloc.

Western analysts played down the significance of the Soviet presence and said it was likely Moscow wanted to check on Syrian handling of its advanced hardware following the poor showing of Syria's Soviet weaponry in last year's war.

That conflict gave rise to Syrian complaints that the Soviet equipment was no match for Israel's U.S.-supplied weapons.

The analysts also noted that the SAM-5s were specifically a defensive weapon, threatening Israel's ability to dominate the skies of the region rather than posing a threat to Israel itself.

Despite its diplomatic support and military aid to Syria, the Sov-

iet Union has so far fought shy of giving its ally military parity with the Israelis.

Moscow has, however, supported the Syrians in their claims that Israel is preparing for a new war.

The Soviet New Agency TASS said this week "Israel openly threatens to deliver a strike at Syria. Threats are being made to Jordan as well. In other words, another war is being prepared while lip service is being paid to peace."

Moscow further contributed to the tension in Lebanon this week by withdrawing dependents on its diplomats in Beirut. This was taken as a sign by a nervous Lebanese public that the Soviet Union knew of trouble in the offing, despite Moscow's protestations that it was a routine move.

Analysts said the tactics of both Moscow and Syria appeared aimed at scuppering the troop withdrawal agreement between Israel and Lebanon rather than at starting a war the Syrians would

have little hope of winning.

Damascus fears the troop agreement would further isolate Syria in the Arab World while Moscow believes the deal would consolidate U.S. pre-eminence in the region.

The proposed agreement effectively removes Lebanon from the Middle East conflict. Damascus believes that it also gives a military advantage to the Israelis by allowing them a security role in the south of the country.

Syria appears to fear that if, under the present terms, it withdraws its troops, it would be leaving itself vulnerable to future Israeli attack.

Washington had hoped that Saudi Arabia would use its influence on Syria to accept the withdrawal plan. But Saudi Defence Minister Sultan said in Paris, "Saudi Arabia is not a tool in the hands of any big or small power for exerting pressure on an Arab nation."

# Geneva missile talks approach crucial phase

By Sidney Weiland  
 Reuter

LONDON — U.S. and Soviet negotiators will assess next week whether proposals billed by each side as major concessions offer any hope for a quick arms deal in Europe.

With both nuclear powers parading revamped bargaining positions, the 18-month-old Geneva missile talks could be approaching a crucial phase, western officials say.

The United States switched tactics on March 29, at the end of the last session in Geneva, giving Moscow seven weeks to mull over a proposed "interim solution" involving sizeable but as yet unspecified cuts in deployments on both sides.

Until then, the Reagan administration had pressed for a blanket "Zero option" ban on all Soviet and still-to-be deployed American land-based medium-range missiles in Europe.

Last week, Soviet Leader Yuri Andropov appeared to accept U.S. demands that counting rules should cover warheads rather than missiles. But the offer was heavily hedged by conditions.

How much room for manoeuvre exists between the two positions will be tested when a new negotiating round begins next Tuesday.

While the Soviet Union has publicly scorned President Reagan's "interim" solution, which would allow some but limited deployments, western officials believe Moscow has been careful not to slam the door finally.

The U.S. and other NATO allies welcomed Andropov's wil-

lingness to discuss warheads, but rejected his insistence that Soviet weapons should be matched one for one against the independent British and French nuclear arsenals.

Reagan said the Soviet offer merited serious study but cautioned, "you won't know until you really sit across the table from them whether ... this was just propaganda or a proposal."

Many western arms experts saw the offer mainly as an attempt to seize the propaganda high ground in western Europe, where public opinion is sharply divided over NATO plans to install 572 U.S. cruise and Pershing-2 missiles.

But they agreed it was worth intensive probing to establish whether Moscow is ready to work for a compromise.

Officials said it could take several months before it becomes clear whether or not a deal can be struck.

The Andropov proposal, the fourth Soviet negotiating variant in two years, takes account for the first time of western concern that the three warheads on each Soviet SS-20 missile in Europe give Moscow a critical advantage.

But, whatever the probing reveals, Andropov's basic premise is unacceptable to NATO, which holds that only American and Soviet missiles are under negotiation at present.

Britain and France maintain their nuclear weapons are strategic, not medium-range, and are intended to defend their own countries, not western Europe as a whole, while U.S. missiles would provide an area-wide shield.

From Moscow's perspective, however, British or French mis-

siles are as threatening as U.S. Pershings which are capable of reaching Soviet targets in 14 minutes from West Germany.

This could prove the toughest hurdle of all in negotiations already burdened by a built-in time factor: NATO's intention to begin deploying new U.S. missiles in western Europe in December unless a total ban is agreed by that time.

Western officials said the Andropov offer, in a speech on May 3, seemed calculatedly ambiguous.

While offering to match warheads on SS-20s and medium-range bombers against similar British and French weapons in an equal, staggered tradeoff, he quoted no numbers.

Two weeks earlier, in an interview, Andropov listed the number of warheads on British and French sea-and land-based missiles as more than 400, a figure disputed by the West.

Britain and France deploy 162 sea and land missiles, of which 98 have single warheads. The remaining 64 British polaris submarine missiles carry three warheads each but they are not independently targetable, unlike the three aboard each SS-20.

Even if the polaris is counted as a triple-warhead weapon, the British and French warhead total comes to only 290 — at least 110 fewer than Andropov's tally.

If the Soviet Union claimed compensation for 400 warheads, SS-20s already facing western Europe would still have to be reduced from 243 — with a total of 729 warheads — to 134.

This would be an improvement of nearly 12 per cent on Andropov's earlier offer to cut back to

162 to match British and French strength missile for missile.

Western officials say it is unclear which weapons Andropov is counting, and that the ambiguity could lead to an acrimonious squabble in a protracted numbers game.

Inclusion of aircraft, which the U.S. prefers to leave to a later stage, would make the arithmetic even more complicated.

According to Andropov, a one

for one trade-off of nuclear-capable planes would leave 138 on each side.

Britain and France have about 80 planes in the medium-range category, while the west counts about 400 comparable Soviet aircraft. There are also about 500 U.S. planes in Europe which the west says are outside the negotiating scenario.

Andropov's statement left unclear whether he was seeking to include U.S. nuclear-capable aircraft

in the count.

Another key issue also left unstated was whether easily transportable SS-20s moved out of Europe would be transferred to Soviet Siberia instead of being destroyed, as the west demand.

The Soviet offer intrigued western diplomats by its overall vagueness. "It is like the dance of the seven veils. Only the first veil has so far been torn," NATO Secretary General Joseph Luns commented.



—the Guardian

## Niger seeks African style democracy

By Claude Regin  
 Reuter

NIAMEY — The military, who seized power in this impoverished West African nation of Niger nearly a decade ago, have no intention of reverting to Western-style parliamentary democracy.

Instead they intend to increase popular participation in formulating and implementing social and economic policy by introducing a series of assemblies running from village to national level.

They call the plan "development society" and believe it will give birth to the only authentic African democracy.

Nigerien officials say parliamentary democracy, the one-party system and imported brands of capitalism and Communism are ill-suited to pull Africa out of chronic under-development in the two decades since independence.

"What we call development society responds to African tradition and constitutes an original attempt at popular participation in decision-making based on national customs and values", Salaou Barbou, the official charged with implementing the new system, told Reuters.

Development councils comprising representatives of key local organisations were set up a year ago. At village and local level they include youth movements and rural cooperatives.

A 120-member national council selected from development council members was to have held its first session on April 15 to coincide with the ninth anniversary of the coup which brought Brigadier-General Seyni Kountché to power.

"We decided to wait and see how the new structures worked at local level before installing the top of the pyramid," Barbou said. Government officials said the whole system should begin working before the end of the year.

Once in place it will start work on a new constitution to replace

the charter introduced after independence from France in 1960 and suspended since the coup.

In theory, decisions and suggestions will run up the new structure from the grassroots as easily as from the top down.

But critics say the national council smacks of Fascist-style corporatism and will only serve to relay decisions from the government to the masses.

But Barbou insists that the aim is to decentralise decision-making in this vast country three times the size of California, 90 per cent of whose population of 5.3 million scratches out a subsistence living from an arid soil.

"The system we inherited from the French and continued under former President Hamani Diori was heavily centralised and proved its ineffectiveness during the great drought of a decade ago," he said.

Barbou was referring to the 1969-74 drought which killed thousands of people and devastated livestock in the whole Sub-Saharan Sahel region, including Niger.

The Diori government's inability to tackle the drought's dramatic consequences and its alleged misuse of relief funds were instrumental in bringing the military to power.

After the then Colonel Kountché took control in April 1974 he set his country three main goals — food self-sufficiency to protect Niger against future droughts, economic independence through the development of energy resources, and the setting up of a truly African democracy.

Thanks to a price boom for its uranium in the late seventies and massive injections of foreign aid, Niger succeeded in increasing staple food production but it is still a long way from self-sufficiency.

Oil deposits have been discovered near the country's eastern border. This would eventually allow Niger to stop importing oil, a vital step towards energy independence, government officials

said.

Some critics, including students and former politicians, while not disputing the need for some form of popular participation, tend to see the government's third goal as a way for Kountché, 52, to legitimise his rule and stay in power.

"And coming from the military it is hard to imagine how this so-called development society could develop into anything other than an instrument to transmit decisions from the top," one former politician who declined to be identified, told Reuters.

He said radio and television debates were one-sided with no opponents of the new structure invited to take part.

Kountché's Niger tolerates no dissent. The media are under strict control and armed troops are a common sight in this dusty, sleepy capital on the Niger river where temperatures soar to 45 degrees centigrade in mid afternoon most days of the year.

But foreign diplomats generally praise the present military leadership's dedication and "non-sensical" approach to Niger's battle against underdevelopment.

They say there is far less corruption than in other developing nations, government ministers work from unimpressive, often drab offices and the use of official cars is severely restricted.

Unlike the previous government, which was paralysed by political infighting and tribal feuds, the present government has achieved limited economic success and gone a long way towards forging a national identity by playing down ethnic differences, the diplomats say.

A desperately poor country where life expectancy averages 39, Niger is striving to improve rural health conditions by setting up dispensaries and clinics in the most remote areas.

And with a staggering 94 per cent illiteracy rate, schooling features high on the government's list of priorities.

## Communist threat: A pretext for U.S. involvement in C. America

By Harvey Morris  
 Reuter

LONDON — A Central American state falls into the grip of a Communist-backed government. Arms flow in from the Soviet Bloc. Washington, fearing for the stability of the region, backs right-wing rebels based in neighbouring Honduras in a bid to topple the government.

The state was Guatemala, the date was 1954 and the result of the U.S. intervention was a victory for the rebels.

For the U.S. president of the day, Dwight D. Eisenhower, the Guatemalan government of President Jacobo Arbenz Guzman was a "malignant force" which had seized the Guatemalan people.

During its two years in power it had, in fact, seized much of the acreage of the powerful American-owned United Fruit Company which dominated the Guatemalan economy.

Although this was a prime factor in Washington's opposition to the elected Arbenz government, the United States also feared the spread of Communist influence in the region.

Arbenz, a reformist army officer, had the backing of the small Guatemalan Communist Party. But it was never established that he was himself a Communist.

Analysts subsequently noted that U.S. antagonism towards the Arbenz government helped strengthen the hand of the Communists and pushed it towards the Eastern Bloc to secure arms supplies.

Washington rallied the Organisation of American States (OAS) against Arbenz and persuaded it to adopt a resolution that

denounced international Communism as a potential threat to the sovereignty and political independence of the Americas.

The crisis came to a head at the end of May when the United States reported a shipment of Soviet Bloc arms was being unloaded at the Guatemalan port of Puerto Barrios. Washington announced it was airlifting arms to Nicaragua and Honduras as a counter-measure.

In mid-June, right-wing rebels commanded by Colonel Carlos Castillo Armas crossed from Honduras at the start of a lightning campaign that was to force the resignation of Arbenz within 10 days.

The United States told an emergency session of the United Nations Security Council that the Castillo Armas campaign was not an act of aggression but a revolution. There are clear historical parallels between the Guatemalan crisis of the 1950s and the present-day tension between the United States and Nicaragua.

But events in the intervening years now make it more difficult for Washington to impose its will on Central America.

The most dramatic of these was the Cuban revolution and Cuba's subsequent move into the Soviet sphere. Left-wing movements in the region can now count on assistance from Havana, and via Havana from the Eastern Bloc, which was not available 30 years ago.

The Bay of Pigs landing in 1961, when an invasion force of U.S.-backed Cuban emigres overrun by government forces, also taught Washington its strategy of using exiles to counter Communism in the region was not foolproof.

When President Lyndon John-

son decided to intervene in the Dominican Republic four years later, he relied on U.S. army and marine personnel to enforce American policy.

In view of the much-commented "post-Vietnam syndrome" in the United States, analysts have ruled out such direct deployment of U.S. forces in the dispute with Nicaragua or to settle the conflict in El Salvador.

Yet a similar caution about using U.S. personnel abroad was already evident in 1954 when congressmen expressed anxiety that the dispatch of servicemen to Indochina might lead to "another Korea."

Then, as now, the intensity of U.S. fears about Marxist penetration in Central America puzzled Washington's closest western allies.

British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden commented: "It seemed to me that their fears of a Communist build-up in Guatemala were probably exaggerated."

Analysts have speculated that the rapid disintegration of the Arbenz administration, in the face of invasion by the Castillo Armas forces, was partly due to its failure to arm the population.

Nicaragua's Sandinista rulers have, by contrast, chosen to set up nationwide popular militias with a view to fighting off counter-revolutionary invasion forces.

They also appear to enjoy a wider spectrum of international support than did Arbenz in 1954. The Latin American states have withheld their wholehearted support for Reagan's policy towards Nicaragua and some are trying to promote their own diplomatic solution of the central American crisis.



# Salt retains its unique charm while growing into 21st century

Beginning a three-part article on one of Jordan's most historic towns

Text and photos by  
Rami G. Khouri

Old cities throughout the world face the same challenge of how to grow and modernise without losing their traditional character. A small city in northwestern Jordan thinks it may have the answer.

That city is Salt, a 35,000-strong repository of Jordan's urban heritage from the closing decades of the 19th century. Bypassed by political events, largely neglected by business and industry, off the tourist paths and well away from the country's main trade routes, Salt has spent the past century looking after itself.

And, in the opinion of most Salt residents and visitors to the city, thank goodness that it has. Because the result is a well preserved, but still vital and growing city that retains the urban charm and character of an older Middle East. Its subtle yet powerful architecture, its layered tiers of housing climbing its several hills, its bustling old downtown quarters full of walking, strolling, chatting people, the occasional car trying to negotiate a narrow street, the frequent pack animals more easily winding their way through the labyrinth of 19th century alleyways, steps and walkways, the small specialty shops manned by merchants who, in some cases, have been there for 40 or 50 years, the early morning vegetable market, the old men drinking tea and smoking hand-made clay pipes in their chairs, in designated spots they have occupied for decades along the main streets and alleys of the old city, the turbaned, black-robed, tattooed old ladies from the surrounding villages passing through town quickly for their shopping needs, the frequent greetings, the many small conversations among people not always in a hurry, people who find the time to share a cup of coffee and ask about friends and family, people who remember the gentle way of life of long ago, and who have taken the trouble to preserve it and enjoy it: this is Salt.

Visitors to the Middle East may still catch a glimpse of past grandeur in large Arab capitals such as Cairo or Damascus, but it is Salt that has preserved and nurtured the human-scale, small pleasures and sidewalk sensibilities of city life in the Middle East of 100 years ago. Yet, Salt is by no means a city living in the past. To the contrary, its hallmark today is a three-pronged programme that has, in just two years, catapulted it into the vanguard of efforts to update municipal development practices and provide Jordanian cities with the resources needed to assure balanced growth into the 21st century. It is perhaps ironic that Salt, the city that preserved the old urban heritage of Jordan from the 19th to the 20th centuries, should be the one to forge new self-help techniques to carry Jordanian cities from the 20th into the 21st century. But then, perhaps it is not really so surprising, because Salt has always been a city of firsts.

Salt was always the main, and more often than not, the only, substantial Jordanian city during the 19th and early 20th centuries. It

was the seat of the Ottoman Empire in the east bank of the Jordan River. It served briefly as first capital city of the newly established Emirate of Transjordan in 1922. It was the site of the first modern hospital and church in Jordan, in the second half of the 19th century. It had the first secondary school in the country, built in 1924.

Ottoman tax records from the year 1596 indicate that Salt was "the only city in all of Balqa District", the high plateau region that includes most of north-central Jordan. The city's tax rolls showed 70 families of some 350 people (including five bachelors, 40 Muslim families and 25 Christian families), who paid 12,000 aqias in taxes (the aqia was an Ottoman silver coin in use until the early 1800s; in 1702, according to the same Ottoman tax records, 300 aqias equalled one gold pound).

Salt native himself, suggests the Salt region's population in the late 16th and early 17th centuries was probably closer to several thousand people, counting the 600-700 families of the Bani Sakhr and five other local bedouin tribes who lived near the city but were left out of the Ottoman records. The Bani Sakhr alone paid 38,000 aqias in tax, mainly on their huge herds of livestock.

Some of the earliest English travellers to the Middle East, at the start of the 19th century, passed through Salt and recorded their observations. John Lewis Burckhardt, the Anglo-Swiss explorer who went on to "rediscover" the ancient Nabatean capital city of Petra in south Jordan, visited Salt on July 3, 1812 and wrote later in his book "Travels in Syria and the Holy Land" (1822), that "Salt" was "the only inhabited place in the province of Balqa".

Salt and other smaller cities and villages in early 1816, later to record his observations in his 1825 book entitled "Travels among the Arab Tribes Inhabiting the Countries East of Syria and Palestine, including a Journey from Nazareth to the Mountains beyond the Dead Sea and from thence through the Plains of the Hauran to Bozra, Damascus, Tripoli, Lebanon, Baalbeck, and by the Valley of the Orontes to Seleucia, Antioch and Aleppo." His observations were as precise as his titles were long, and he left us a detailed description of day-to-day life in Salt in 1816 as observed by a foreigner. He arrived at sunset on February 23 to find the city blanketed in snow and its inhabitants dressed in sheepskin jackets, giving the city "an appearance of a scene in the north of Europe." He stayed in the house of a wealthy trader named "Aioobe, or Job, who was reputed to be one of the greatest traders in the country." He recorded "about a hundred separate dwellings in this small town of Assalt; and the computation, by taking an average of twenty ordinary houses, made the population from five to six hundred souls only."

The city's independent spirit remained intact, for Buckingham noted that "The Sheikh el Belled, or chief of the town, is a Mohammedan; but holds himself independent of all the Syrian pashas... He lives in the castle, and the only source of his power is his superior wealth, and he is not vested either hereditarily or by election, with any direct authority, either from the governments around him, or the people, over whom he nevertheless exercises an influence nearly equal to that of a regularly appointed governor in any of the provincial towns of the Syrian territory."

He noted that "there are conceived to be about a hundred male Christians in Assalt, most of whom came here to seek refuge from the persecutions... the late Pasha of Acre, during the expedition of the French against Egypt and Syria; and these refugees were chiefly Nazarenes... One of the consequences of the nearly equal mixture of Christians and Mohammedans in this community is a proportionate diminution of the force of bigotry and religious intolerance. At Assalt... no distinctions exist (between the Jews and Christians and the Mohammedans... so perfectly are they on a footing of equality." Buckingham recognised the spirit of tolerance and spiritual non-discrimination that existed in Salt, and which remains until now one of the city's special hallmarks.

Houses were small, one-floor structures consisting generally of one room subdivided into recesses, rather than separate apartments, Buckingham reported. Stone was the predominant building material, with a few pointed arches thrown up inside to support a flat roof of branches of trees and reeds plastered over the clay. Cattle and poultry lived on the floor of the house, with an upper terrace some two feet above the floor for use by the family.

The city was surrounded by richly cultivated fields of vines, corn and olives, irrigated by ample water supplies from several springs including, according to

Buckingham, one in the middle of the castle.

The neighbouring countryside around Salt was very much under the control of the bedouin tribes, who, the writer noted, "live on good terms with the inhabitants of Assalt, although their credit is so bad, that no trader to the town will trust them with any supplies, without having the purchase-money paid at the time. Assalt is the bazaar or market for the supply of all the country as far as Karak, and this last place for the country east of it, which is said to extend a long way in that direction, before the sands of the Desert are met with." He also noted the city's substantial raisin industry, though no wine was being produced yet.

By the second half of the 19th century, Salt was moving into a leading position of political and commercial importance in the area. Its independent spirit of earlier days was gradually relinquished as the Ottoman Empire strengthened its control of the region south of Damascus. In 1851, after a period of some anarchy because of tribal raids in what is today north Jordan and southern Syria, the Turkish governor of Nablus, in Palestine, sent a force that took control of Salt and established there an office of an Ottoman district governor, who, along with the Nablus district governor, reported to the Ottoman provincial authorities in Damascus.

Closer links developed with the Ottoman political centre in Damascus later in the 19th century, after the Circassians settled in Amman and other villages in Jordan in 1878 and further helped to stabilise what had been a rather free-wheeling, independent corner of the Ottoman Empire.

The reason for Salt's long tradition as an urban centre was its location at one end of the east-west, Nablus-to-Salt trade route that connected Palestine and the Mediterranean coast with the inland regions leading into the Syrian and Arabian deserts; ample water resources; much fertile land; security from raiding bedouin tribes to the east, north and south; and a cohesive community within the city based on religious tolerance and productive coexistence. Other towns in Jordan developed along similar lines, but never reached the prominence or wealth of Salt. Karak, in the south, developed astride the trade route to Hebron and south Palestine, while Irbid, in the north, connected with Nazareth and Galilee in north Palestine. When the Ottoman district governor's office was established in Salt and it became the administrative centre of the land, the town's fate as the political focal point of the east bank of the Jordan River was sealed. The other cities in Transjordan, namely Karak, Irbid and Madaba, quickly deferred to Salt's new stature. From then on, and for some 75 years, it became the most important, the most wealthy and the most beautiful city in Jordan, reaching its peak of development in the 20 years between 1895 and 1915.

In 1866, the first modern church was established by the Roman Catholic community in Salt, and is still being used today in its walled compound in the centre of the old town. The first modern



Turn-of-the-century house with intricately carved stone lintel

hospital in Jordan was opened by the Church Missionary Society (CMS). Primary schools operated by the mosques, the churches and the Ottoman authorities started to appear. Salt's role as the commercial centre of the entire Transjordanian plateau was evident as early as the 1880s. Another traveller from the west, the American Laurence Oliphant, visited the city in 1880 and wrote in his book, "The Land of Gilead", that Salt had a population of some 6,000 and was "the only centre of population east of the Jordan." Salt's predominance advanced further after 1892, when a 4000-man Ottoman force marched upon and finally subdued the free-spirited city of Karak. With Amman already under Ottoman control because of its strategic location astride the haj (Muslim pilgrims') route and the area around the village of Amman secured by the Circassians, all of Transjordan suddenly, and for the first time, enjoyed widespread

stability and a certain amount of political cohesion. In such a context, Salt quickly achieved the regional prominence that its long historical record had always suggested it could, according to the Jordanian historian Suleiman Mousa.

Also in the 1880s, some families from Nablus and other parts of Palestine migrated to Salt and settled there permanently. Among these were the Touqan, Amad, Nabulsi and Muhayar families, who would later develop into some of the most prominent and successful Jordanian families. Here, among other things, was early testament to the close commercial, human and social ties that have bound the people of Palestine and Jordan for more than a hundred years -- ties that are receiving political attention today in the ongoing talks between Jordan and the Palestinian leadership for some form of Palestinian-Jordanian confederation as part of an overall Arab-Israeli peace settlement. It

started back in the 1880s, and, like many other things Jordanian, it started in Salt.

This was the start of Salt's finest days -- or decades. By the 1890s, the city had achieved a level of prosperity that matched its political importance. A sewage system was installed. The primary schools, hospital, religious institutions and government administrative units all contributed to the city's development. Some of the more prominent and wealthier families started building their large houses, most of which today remain standing, and in use, and can be admired by visitors who take the time to stroll through the centre of the city. The famous Abu Jaber house was started in 1894. With its frescoed ceilings painted by imported artists from Italy, it remains one of the country's architectural treasures.

A shorter version of this article appears in the current edition of Jordan Magazine



Layered tiers of houses climb Salt's hills

The 16th century city of Salt was already a well established centre, for the area had been inhabited since Roman times, and even well before that. Archaeological excavations indicate people have lived in Salt since the Early Bronze Age, or about 3000 B.C. Roman tombs and early Byzantine mosaic floors have been excavated there, and the very name of the city derives from the ancient Greek word *salus*, meaning dense forests. In the Byzantine era, a bishop had his seat in the city called Salus Hieratica. Its erratic history before the 16th century gradually gave way to a more stable existence, as evidenced by Ottoman tax and court records that have been studied by contemporary Jordanian historians.

Raouf Abu Jaber, Jordan's leading 'amateur' historian and a

and that its inhabitants were "quite independent" from the Ottoman government in Damascus. He recorded 400 Muslim and 80 Christian families in the city, including two sheikhs who lived in the Castle atop Citadel (Qalaa) Hill and kept a few old guns at hand. He also noted the presence of a fine spring in the centre of the town, which was connected to the castle by a secret underground passage that was used in times of siege. (The castle was first built in 1220 and rebuilt in 1261, to be destroyed finally in 1840). The local church was manned by two priests whose salary was four Ottoman pounds per year, and twelve merchants dominated commercial life.

The British traveller J.S. Buckingham, en route to India to explore the old trade routes to the east, passed through Nazareth,



Hammam street in the oldest part of the town

## TV & RADIO

### JORDAN TELEVISION

#### MAIN CHANNEL

16:30	Korona
16:40	Cartoon
17:10	Black Horse
17:50	Old Couple
18:15	That's Incredible
19:05	Handicrafts
19:20	Programmes Review
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	Local Programme
21:30	Cinema '83
22:15	Arabic Series
23:10	News in Arabic

#### FOREIGN CHANNEL

18:00	French Programme
19:00	News in French
19:30	News in Hebrew
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	Comedy: Bruff
21:10	Nanny
22:00	News in English
22:15	Best Seller: A Whale for the Killing

#### RADIO JORDAN

835 KHz AM & 99 KHz FM & partly on 95.60 KHz SW

07:00	Morning Show
07:30	News Bulletin
08:00	News Summary
08:30	Morning Show
09:00	News Summary
09:30	Pop Session
10:00	News Summary
10:30	Catch the Words
11:00	News Bulletin
11:30	Instrumentals
12:00	News Bulletin
12:30	Concert Hour
13:00	News Summary
13:30	Instrumentals: Old Favorites
14:00	Listeners' Choice
14:30	News Summary
15:00	Jazz Hour
15:30	News Summary
16:00	Date with a Star
16:30	Evening Show
17:00	News Summary
17:30	News Summary
18:00	Evening Show
18:30	News Summary
19:00	Evening Show
19:30	News Summary
20:00	Evening Show
20:30	News Summary
21:00	Evening Show
21:30	News Summary
22:00	Evening Show
22:30	News Summary
23:00	Evening Show
23:30	News Summary
24:00	Evening Show

### BBC WORLD SERVICE

0300, 720, 1413 KHz

06:00	Newsweek 06:30 Ramean and Cooper 06:45 Financial Review 06:55 Reflections 07:00 World News 07:09 British Press Review 07:15 Letterbox 07:30 Parade 07:45 Letter from America 08:00 Newsweek 08:30 Counterpart 09:00 World News 09:09 News about Britain 09:15 From Our Own Correspondent 09:30 Sarah and Company 10:00 World News 10:09 Reflections 10:15 The Pleasure's Yours 11:00 World News 11:09 British Press Review 11:15 People and Politics 11:45 Sports Review 12:15 Classical Record Review 12:30 Religious Service 13:00 World News 13:09 News about Britain 13:15 Letter from America 13:30 Baker's Half 13:45 World News 13:59 Commentary 14:15 Good Books 14:30 Short Story 14:45 The Tony Mynar Request Show 15:00 Oxfam 15:10 Afters 15:15 Radio Newsweek 17:15 Concert Hall 18:00 World News 18:09 Commentary 18:15 From Our Own Correspondent 18:35 Financial Review 18:45 Letter from America 19:00 World News 19:09 Meridian 19:40 Reflections 19:45 Special 20:00 World News 20:09 News about Britain 20:15 Radio Newsweek 20:30 Brain of Britain 1983 21:00 Parade 21:15 With Great Pleasure 22:00 World News 22:09 Commentary 22:15 Letterbox 22:30 Sunday Half-Hour 23:00 Love and Mr. Lewisham 23:15 The Pleasure's Yours 24:00 World News 00:09 News in Action 00:40 Reflections 00:45 Sportsweek 01:00 World News 01:09 Commentary 01:15 Letter from America 01:30 Strictly Instrumental
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### VOICE OF AMERICA

KHz: 1200, 5405, 7200, 15205, 11725

05:00	The Breakfast Show: News, Information Presentation of Popular Music with Feature Reports, Interviews, Answers to Listener's Questions, Science Digest, News Summary at 30 minutes
06:00	The Pleasure's Yours 24:00 World News 00:09 News in Action 00:40 Reflections 00:45 Sportsweek 01:00 World News 01:09 Commentary 01:15 Letter from America 01:30 Strictly Instrumental

## WHAT'S GOING ON

### TODAY'S EVENTS

#### EXHIBITIONS

"Most Ancient Jordan: Past Million Years" at the American Centre.

\* "French contributions to Jordanian Archaeology" at the French Cultural Centre.

#### CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre	Tel. 661026/7
American Centre	41520
British Council	36147-8
French Cultural Centre	37009
Goethe Institute	41993
Soviet Cultural Centre	44203
Spanish Cultural Centre	24049
Turkish Cultural Centre	39777
Haya Arts Centre	665195
Hussien Youth City	667181
Y.W.C.A.	41795
Y.W.M.C.A.	664251
Amman Municipal Library	36111
University of Jordan Library	843555

#### MUSEUMS

Fellows Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also models from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculpture by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Munatah, Jabal Lweideh. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 30128.
Military Museum: Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240.

### Popular Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 year old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc.

Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 37169.

#### SERVICE CLUBS

Lions Amman Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Tyche Hotel, 1:30 p.m.
Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Marriott Hotel, 1:30 p.m.
Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.
Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the Intercontinental Hotel, 2:00 p.m.
Sports Automobile Club, Jabal Amman, Eighth Circle. Tel. 815261.

#### CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic)	Jabal Amman, Tel. 24590.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic)	Jabal Lweideh, 37440.
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic)	Jabal Amman, 661757.
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox)	Abdali, 23541.
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer)	Jabal Amman, 43453.
Armenian Catholic Church	Ashrafieh, 71331.
Armenian Orthodox Church	Ashrafieh, 75161.
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox)	Ashrafieh, 71751.
Amman International Church (Inter-denominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani, 663249.	

#### PRAYER TIMES

03:04	Fajr
04:37	(Sunrise) Shuruq
11:52	Dhuhr
15:13	'Asr
18:28	Maghreb
20:00	'Isha

## FOR THE TRAVELLER

### AMMAN AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Air Jordan department at Amman Airport tel. 92205-6, where it should always be verified.

#### ARRIVALS

06:45	Cairo (RJ)
08:05	Tripoli, Larnaca (LI)
08:45	Cairo (RJ)
08:55	Agaba (RJ)
09:15	Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RI)
09:30	Jeddah (RJ)
09:45	Kuwait (RJ)
10:15	Beirut (RJ)
10:25	Dhahran, Riyadh (SY)
13:40	Kuwait (KU)
15:20	Jeddah (SV)
15:30	Baghdad (IA)
15:35	London (RJ)
16:30	Cairo (RJ)
16:45	Athens (RJ)
16:55	Agaba (RJ)
17:00	Brussels, Frankfurt (RJ)
17:15	New York, Vienna (RJ)
17:30	Paris, Geneva (RJ)
18:30	Cairo (RJ)
19:05	Cairo (EA)
19:30	Rome (RJ)
19:50	London (BA)
20:15	Beirut (MEA)
22:00	Zurich, Athens, Damascus (SW)
00:30	Cairo (RJ)
00:30	Cairo (RJ)
00:45	Baghdad (RJ)
01:00	Cairo (EA)

#### DEPARTURES

04:45	Cairo (RJ)
05:40	Damascus, Frankfurt (LH)
07:00	Agaba (RJ)
07:50	Cairo (RJ)
09:05	Rome (Alitalia)
09:05	Beirut (MEA)
09:05	Larnaca, Tripoli (LI)
10:30	Rome (RJ)
10:45	Athens (RJ)
11:00	Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
12:30	Riyadh, Dhahran (SV)
14:30	Kuwait (KU)
14:30	Beirut (RJ)
15:00	Agaba (RJ)
16:30	Baghdad (TR)
16:50	Jeddah (SV)

### MONEY EXCHANGE

Local sell/buy rates in Jds

Belgian franc	73
Dutch guilder	129.3
Egyptian guinea	327.3
French franc	48.2
Irish pound	510.7
Italian lire (for 100)	24.4
Japanese yen (for 100)	152.9
Lebanese lira	85.3
Omani rial	1030
Qatari riyal	98.1
Saudi riyal	103.5
Swedish crown	47.5
Swiss franc	175
Syrian lira	61.3
UAE dirham	97.3
U.S. sterling pound	557.7
U.S. dollar	356.5
W. German mark	145.1

### WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be partly cloudy to cloudy with scattered showers. Winds will be northerly to moderate, will be changing to fresh and strong at times. Dusty conditions will prevail especially in the desert region. In Agaba, it will be partly cloudy and dusty with thundershowers. Winds will be northerly fresh and seas rough.

Low/high temperature in deg.C.

Amman	14/26
Agaba	16/32
Deserts	16/32
Jordan Valley	14/32
Yesterdays' high temperatures:	
Amman 29, Agaba 33. Humidity readings:	
Amman 36 per cent. Agaba 46 per cent.	

## USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

### EMERGENCIES

Ambulance	193, 75111
Fire, fire, police	193
Blind bank	75121
Civil Defence rescue	66111
Fire headquarters	22090-3
Police rescue	192, 21111, 37777
Police headquarters	39141
Traffic police	56390-1
Electric Power Co.	36341-2
Municipal water service	7112



## SPORTS

## English League Championship ends

## Manchester City relegated

LONDON (R) — Manchester City suffered the final humiliation in a season of mounting disintegration when they were relegated from the English first division after crashing 1-0 to Luton Saturday.

City, second at the beginning of November, went down with Swansea and Brighton, whose fate was already sealed, but fellow strugglers Luton narrowly clung on to Division One status.

Luton had to win at City's Maine Road ground to stay up, and their hero was Yugoslav midfielder Raddy Antic, who scored the winner five minutes from the finish.

Leicester clinched promotion to the first division when they drew 0-0 with Burnley, while fellow challengers Fulham lost 1-0 at Derby. Queens Park Rangers and Wolverhampton were already sure to go up.

Dundee United finished the Scottish season on a triumphant note when they landed the League Championship for the first time by beating Dundee 2-1.

Manchester City, who won the League title, the English Football Association (F.A.) Cup, two League Cups and the European Cup-winners' Cup between 1968 and 1976, crumbled after a deceptively good start to the season. City were second in the League

at the beginning of November but their slide effectively started in February when they lost to Brighton in the F.A. Cup and manager John Bond quit.

Champions Liverpool finished 11 points clear of their nearest rivals but could not halt a poor sequence in which they lost five and drew two of their last seven League matches.

Liverpool were toppled 2-1 by Watford whose success made them runners-up and clinched a place in next season's European Football Union (UEFA) Cup.

Manchester United, who face Brighton in the F.A. Cup final at Wembley next Saturday, went down 3-2 to Nottingham County and finished third.

Tottenham, inspired by a hat-trick from Scottish international Steve Archibald, beat Stoke 4-1 to finish fourth and also ensure they will compete in the UEFA Cup.

Watford completed their debt season in Division One on a high note by beating the champions in a match marked by an own goal from Liverpool's Zimbabwe-born goalkeeper Bruce Grobbelaar.

Grobbelaar's lapse immediately after halftime put Watford 2-0 ahead after Martin patched notched the first goal shortly before the break. South African-born Craig Johnston pulled one back after 62 minutes.

Former European Champions Nottingham Forest are also in the UEFA Cup next season. They trounced Swansea 3-0 with Ian Wallace scoring twice and Viv Anderson completing the tally, and finished fifth.

Aston Villa, who won the European Cup last year, could also win a UEFA place. They beat

Arsenal 2-1 to finish sixth but the result of the F.A. Cup final will determine whether they go into Europe.

If Manchester United win and gain a place in the Cup Winners' Cup, Villa will qualify. But defeat for United will mean they will take the fourth UEFA place for finishing third in the League.

## English Division One final standings

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Liverpool	42	24	10	8	87	37	82
Watford	42	22	5	15	74	57	71
Manchester United	42	19	13	10	56	38	70
Tottenham	42	20	9	13	65	50	69
Nottingham Forest	42	20	9	13	62	50	69
Aston Villa	42	21	5	16	62	50	68
Everton	42	18	10	14	66	48	64
West Ham	42	20	4	18	68	62	64
Ipswich	42	15	13	14	64	50	58
Arsenal	42	16	10	16	58	56	58
West Bromwich	42	15	12	15	51	49	57
Southampton	42	15	12	15	54	58	57
Stoke	42	16	9	17	53	64	57
Norwich	42	14	12	16	52	58	54
Notts County	42	15	7	20	55	71	52
Sunderland	42	12	14	16	48	61	50
Birmingham	42	12	14	16	40	55	50
Luton	42	12	13	17	65	84	49
Coventry	42	13	9	20	48	59	48
Manchester City	42	13	8	21	47	70	47
Swansea	42	10	11	21	51	69	41
Brighton	42	9	13	20	38	68	40

## Lauda, Watson out of Monte Carlo race

MONTE CARLO (R) — Rain Saturday disrupted the second practice for Sunday's Monaco Grand Prix, leaving grid positions unchanged from Thursday and putting the McLaren team of Niki Lauda and John Watson out of the race.

It was the first time in a 12-year Grand Prix career that former champion Lauda of Austria had failed to qualify for a major race, although Briton Watson had a similar disappointment here three years ago.

Saturday's times were up to 25 seconds slower than in Thursday's session after rain started to fall 30 minutes before cars took to the track.

The conditions left Renault driver Alain Prost of France holding pole position with compatriot Rene Arnoux second on the grid in his Ferrari.

The disappointment for the McLaren team was compounded by the fact that both Watson of Britain and Austrian Lauda performed well Saturday morning in untimed practice.

Lauda was also one of the fastest drivers in the wet on the 3.312km road circuit but the slower conditions made his performance academic.

Lauda said: "The car felt fine in this morning's untimed session and I reckon I could have qualified in the top 10 if it had been dry this afternoon."

Finnish World Champion Keke Rosberg, fifth in Thursday's first qualifying session, served notice to Prost and Arnoux that his Williams would be challenging their turbos hard.

He was the fastest driver in the

wet, although Arnoux was close behind, and sounded confident about the car and his own form for the race.

"Monte Carlo is a long race and the most patient man will win," Rosberg said after practice.

The 252-km race over 76 narrow, winding laps is especially difficult for the back markers on the grid, but Rosberg's fifth position leaves him well placed if the two Renaults and two Ferraris ahead of him run into difficulties.

Rosberg's French team mate Jacques Laffite of France also found the wet to his liking and was sixth on Saturday's timings.

There were five non-turbo cars in the top 10 Saturday compared with only three on Thursday. The newcomers, ironically, were Lauda who was fourth and Watson who was seventh.

## Hungary clashes with Greece

BUDAPEST (R) — Hungary clash with Greece in their European Soccer Championship Group Three match here on Sunday with a team capable of playing explosive football but with grave doubts about their stamina.

Ferencvaros teammates Szokolai, Ebedli and Nyilasi should prove a volatile attacking force and are sure to disturb the Greeks' defensive line.

However, the Hungarians have been dubbed "a team of 60-minute players" by the Hungarian press and their stamina will be tested by Greece who held England to an ignominious 0-0 draw at Wembley on March 30.

Fortunately for the Hungarians, who lost 2-0 against England last month, Greece lack four of their Wembley heroes—captain Gounaris, Kouwis and Karoulis through injury, and the suspended Xanthopoulos.

Hungary also make changes from the Wembley side with Zsiborasz replacing the erratic Katicz in goal and the injured Poczik returning to midfield.

## Austin, Shriver meet in final

TOKYO (R) — Tracy Austin, the title-holder and top seed, and fellow American Pam Shriver will clash in the final of a \$200,000 women's international tennis tournament here Sunday.

In Saturday's all-American semifinals Austin won 6-4, 7-5 against Leigh Thompson and Shriver beat Barbara Potter 7-5, 4-6, 7-6.

## Holmes, Dokes heavily favoured

LAS VEGAS (R) — It's being billed as "the crown affair," a heavyweight boxing championship doubleheader, but just two of the principals are doing all the pre-fight talking.

Larry Holmes, the World Boxing Council (WBC) heavyweight champion, has not been his usual loquacious self while Mike Weaver, the former World Boxing Association (WBA) king, has been as taciturn as ever.

But their fellow-American opponents, Tim Witherspoon for Holmes and new WBA champion Michael Dokes for Weaver, have more than filled the verbal gap.

The two fights, Holmes-Witherspoon, over 12 rounds, and Dokes-Weaver, scheduled for 15, are set for next Friday at the Dunes Hotel in a 20,000-seat open-air stadium on what used to be a parking lot.

"I'm eager to break him up," says Witherspoon, a 25-year-old from Philadelphia who is ranked third by the WBC. "It's time for Holmes to go. He better like laying on his back."

Holmes, 33, is predicting a victory in seven rounds at the most. He has trained harder than for his last two fights against American Randy Cobb and Lucien Rod-

riguez of France, both of whom he outpointed in one-sided bouts over the last six months.

Local oddsmakers have no doubt who is going to win. Holmes is a 6-1 favourite, based on the fact that he has a 42-0 record with 30 knockouts, 14 of those wins coming since he won the WBC crown in June, 1978.

Witherspoon has a 15-0 record with 11 knockouts.

Dokes, meanwhile, said: "I'm drooling because I can't wait to get in there with Weaver again."

"At first I didn't want to fight Weaver a second time," Dokes, 24, from Miami, added. "I had trouble getting mentally up for him."

"But then I thought, who else easier can I fight than somebody I've already knocked out?"

Dokes stopped Weaver in 63 seconds when they fought five months ago. But the haste with which referee Joey Curtis halted the bout and the resulting controversy forced the WBA to order a rematch.

Dokes is also undefeated with a 26-0-1 record which includes 15 knockouts. Weaver, 30, is 24-10 with 16 knockouts. Weaver was the WBA champion from March, 1981, until he was stopped by

Dokes.

Weaver is a notoriously slow starter but is expected to get off a little quicker this time. "If I fight this time like I did last time, the same thing will happen again," Weaver said. "I'm looking for a second round knockout."

The bookmakers have Dokes a +1 favourite.

This will be the first time two heavyweight championships have been held at the same location on the same day. And, to keep both the WBA and the WBC happy, as well as separate but equal, promoter Don King has insisted on a 30-minute intermission between the two bouts.

Also on the card is a third title fight, WBC junior heavyweight champion Ossie Ocasio of Puerto Rico against top contender Randy Stephens of the United States in a 15-round bout.

On the WBC portion of the bill, number one heavyweight contender Greg Page will meet the number two, fellow-American Renaldo Snipes, in a 12-rounder.

That fight is not only for Page's U.S. Boxing Association title but for the right to meet the winner of the Holmes-Witherspoon bout.

## Bruno is new British boxing hope with a difference

By Jon Henderson  
Reuter

LONDON — British boxing fans are used to heavyweight discoveries with a flair for becoming has-beens overnight. Too many so-called "great white hopes" have ended up "great white dopes."

Frank Bruno is different. He's black and he has now survived 15 fights without a hint that he might join that familiar British species, "the horizontal heavyweight."

In fact Bruno, 21, the London-born son of a Dominican Republic father and a Jamaican mother, has taken just 32 rounds, or an hour and a quarter, to crush his 15 opponents.

Floyd Patterson, the former world champion who has been advising Bruno, was at ringside here last week when the young Briton battered American Scott Le Doux to defeat inside three rounds. He termed him "the best prospect I've seen for years."

Patterson extended this enthusiastic assessment to a forecast that, in "two or three years and 20 more fights, he could well become world champion."

Bruno is splendidly assembled,

standing six feet three inches (1.90 metres) tall and weighing more than 210 pounds (95 kg). He has always liked fighting and until he started throwing punches in a ring, his pugilistic instincts got him in trouble.

"I used to fight at school and I didn't listen when my mum warned me," Bruno said in a recent interview.

The result was he spent five years at a special school where football, swimming and running helped to develop his physique. He admits that he also "learned a lot about life" and the maturity he acquired almost certainly helped him cope with a major setback that was about to befall him.

After making a quick impact in amateur boxing, rising to become British heavyweight champion at the age of 18, he was told that poor eyesight would prevent him turning professional.

There was an operation that could correct the fault but he would have to go either to Eastern Europe or to Colombia to have it.

Bruno went to Colombia where he demonstrated considerable self-discipline for a young man in a strange land. For several weeks he waited alone to discover whether

the operation had been successful.

When he returned home the British Boxing Board cleared Bruno to fight for pay and now, 14 months later, he is a national celebrity.

His destructive punching has given him a short-cut to victory in each of his fights with his longest bout lasting four rounds. None of his opponents has been from the top-flight but there has been no mistaking the quality of Bruno's punching.

"When I looked across the ring and saw him disrob I knew I wasn't fighting a faggot," said Le Doux, who has done battle with Larry Holmes and Ken Norton and still rated Bruno as "one of the strongest men I've ever met."

Even though he lasted a mere seven minutes, Le Doux did enough damage with his head to Bruno's knuckles to give the young Briton an unscheduled break from training. And sore knuckles are always the sign of a heavy puncher.

Terry Lawless, the successful British manager who in recent years has guided Jim Watt, Maurice Hope and Charlie Magri to world titles, is in charge of plotting Bruno's course to the top. He is reluctant to allow him too much rein at this stage.

"I know I am accused of being over-cautious," he says. "But Frank really is too good a prospect to rush."

## Noah, Higuera cruise to final

HAMBURG, West Germany (R) — A reborn Yannick Noah of France will challenge defending champion Jose Higuera of Spain in the West German Open tennis final Sunday after both cruised to straight sets semifinal wins Saturday.

The Cameroun-born Frenchman, out of form and depressed only a week ago, turned on an impressive display of power tennis to dispose of American Eric Fromm 6-1, 6-4 in little over an hour.

Higuera, who has not lost a set so far in the tournament, beat Guillermo Vilas of Argentina 7-5, 6-1 in the other semifinal with more consistent ground shots.

Noah, who will be 24 on Monday, delighted a 10,000 crowd with powerful serves, sliced backhands and crisp volleys to gain sweet revenge for his 1981 Wimbledon first-round defeat by Fromm in their only previous meeting.

Only a week ago Noah caused a furore when he disappeared from the World Team Tennis Cup in Dusseldorf and missed two matches, for which he was fined by the organisers.

Higuera, 30, who won all his singles matches to help Spain to a surprise victory in the Dusseldorf tournament, began slowly against Vilas, who played some fine early passing shots.

After levelling at 4-4, the Spaniard threw away a set point at 5-4 before going on to take the first set with more aggressive play at the net.

The Argentine offered little resistance in the second set, winning only one game as Higuera's ground strokes became more consistent and penetrating.

Higuera, who beat Australian Peter McNamara in last year's final and also won the West German Open in 1979, is favourite to retain the title on Sunday, though Noah is always good for a surprise.

The Frenchman Friday pulled off the shock of the tournament, stopping a lengthy unbeaten run by Swedish ace Mats Wilander, who was seeded third.

## Judge cancels court's fight decision

LOS ANGELES (R) — A court Saturday ruled that Sunday's bout between World Boxing Council (WBC) superfeatherweight champion Bobby Chacon and Cornetius Boza-Edwards should go ahead.

The California court of appeals issued a temporary injunction on behalf of Don Chargin, promoter of the 12-round, non-title fight in Las Vegas. Its order negated a temporary injunction previously granted in Los Angeles superior court on behalf of rival promoter Don King.

A spokesman for Chargin said King's only recourse was now the California supreme court.

## Spain hopes to tighten grip on European soccer

VALLETTA (R) — Spain meet Malta in a European Soccer Championship qualifying match here on Sunday confident of tightening their grip on Group Seven.

The Spaniards, smarting from their failure at home in the World Cup last year, lead the group with seven points from four matches while Malta are one from the bottom with just two points from their three matches.

Couch Miguel Munoz said his team aimed to win by as many goals as possible and added he had brought the best team available to do the job, including five of the Real Madrid side defeated 2-1 by Scotland's Aberdeen in the European Cup Winners' Cup final on Wednesday night.

Munoz said two Real players, Juan Jose and Macceta, along with Barcelona's Victor were slightly injured but were expected to be included in the team.

He said he would not announce his formation until after a final training session Saturday.

Malta, who lost narrowly 1-0 to Northern Ireland in their last qualifying match, have a graver injury problem.

Team captain John Holland, the anchor of the Maltese defence and one of the team's most experienced players, has been forced

to withdraw with a groin injury suffered in a League match two weeks ago.

In addition the dangerous Georgey Nuerh will face a last-minute fitness test on a swollen foot but is highly unlikely to play.

Coach Victor Scerri's problems are compounded by the refusal of defender Gigi Salerno to play for the national side.

Spain will still have their work cut out however against the Maltese, who traditionally put up stiff resistance at home, as well as facing the problem of overcoming the bumpy Ta Qali stadium pitch which was laid only last year.

## Romania likely to remain unbeaten in European soccer

BUCHAREST (R) — Romania look set to keep their unbeaten record intact when they meet Czechoslovakia in a European Soccer Championship Group Five qualifying match here on Sunday.

Romania, whose seven points from four matches include a win and a draw with World Cup holders Italy, could build up a lead sufficient to enable them through their next three away matches with draws.

But manager Mircea Lucescu is still cautious.

"It will be a hard game, perhaps harder than against the Italians... our opponents are strong in defence. They play a zone tactic and not man-to-man marking like the Italians. But the victory we're looking for could keep us in the running for first place."

Back from the mountains north of Bucharest, Lucescu hopes to field the same side who beat Italy but striker Radion Camataru is doubtful because of injury.

But Czechoslovakia are still strong contenders in second place with five points from four matches, the last a 6-0 thumping of Cyprus in Prague.

Manager Frantisek Havranek

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## WORLD

## 'Reagan is warlike'

TORONTO (R) — Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau in an interview published Saturday criticised President Reagan's policies towards the Soviet Union and said there were grounds for the view that Mr. Reagan was warlike and untrustworthy.

Mr. Trudeau was quoted by the Toronto Star as saying there was some justification for public fears that Mr. Reagan was "warlike and so hostile against the Soviet Union that he can't be trusted."

"I disagree with so much of the approach of his administration to the Soviet Union," he said.

He was quoted as saying the Soviet Union was a great power and should be treated as such.

"The United States should be dialoguing with the Soviet Union and not treating them as a criminal people... they have spheres of influence and strategic points they want to defend," Mr. Trudeau said.

Suggestions by the Reagan administration that the U.S. could win a nuclear war were "pretty absurd."

Mr. Trudeau, who supports allowing the testing of U.S. cruise and Pershing II missiles in Canada, said the threatened deployment of the weapons in Europe had already prompted the Soviet Union to withdraw some SS-20 missiles from Central Europe.

Mr. Trudeau also criticised the Reagan administration for not contributing its fair share towards international development.

He said that at the seven-nation summit in Williamsburg, Virginia, later this month he would seek \$2 billion to prevent impending bankruptcies of many Third World countries.

## Etna lava diverted

CATANIA, Sicily (R) — Experts blasted a hole in the southern flank of Mount Etna early Saturday, forcing a stream of molten lava into an artificial channel away from inhabited areas.

The detonation of 400 kilograms of high explosives climaxed a multi-million dollar battle to control a 47-day-old eruption of Europe's largest active volcano.

But, amid a swirl of controversy over the operation, it still left unanswered the question of whether the rechanneling was really necessary.

Civil Protection Minister Loris Fortuna, speaking in a state television interview, put the cost of the deviation project at up to five billion lire (more than \$3 million).

Earlier, volcanologists said the stream of fiery lava spewing from Etna's crater had ceased to threaten the villages of Nicolosi, Belpasso and Ragalna, which earlier appeared to be in the direct line of the flow.

Local ecologists said they feared that the redirection of the lava

into a remote, extinct crater near the mountain could ultimately destroy Etna's natural beauty.

But officials said the carefully calculated blast, involving the drilling of more than 40 holes into solidified lava on the brink of the main stream, and complex water cooling systems to prevent a premature explosion, could prove a major scientific step forward in volcano control.

As smoke and debris from the detonation settled, red hot lava cascaded into the deviation channel.

The volcano is pouring out nearly two million cubic metres (70 million cubic feet) of molten rock a day.

Since the current eruption began on March 28, the lava has flowed more than eight kilometres down the mountain, causing millions of dollars worth of damage to buildings and farmland.

The man-made blast, shortly before dawn, followed more than 33 hours of unbroken toil on the mountainside by technicians led by Swedish demolition expert

Lennart Abersten.

Television cameras followed the final preparations by a four-man squad, promptly dubbed "the famous four" as they worked beneath the eerie glow of incandescent gas from the crater to ready the remote-controlled explosion.

Technical problems earlier forced a 12-hour delay in the planned timing of the detonation.

Mr. Abersten said later that preparations for the blast had not been complete because his technicians had been unable to clear one lava-blocked row of holes for the explosive charges.

This meant the new channel was not as deep as originally planned, he told reporters.

The explosion, the first of its kind, succeeded in diverting part of the lava flow, but scientists said it was too early to reach a final judgment on the experiment.

Renato Cristofolini, a volcano expert at Catania University, told reporters: "The new flow is relatively minor but it could develop."

## Bonn to deport 2 Libyans

BONN (R) — West Germany is to deport two Libyans currently on trial in Bonn for the alleged torture of dissident students here, a defence lawyer said Saturday.

Lawyer Roland Gruen said he had been informed that Mustafa Zaidi and student Abdullah Salem Yahia would be deported in the near future. A Bonn government spokeswoman said she could not comment on the report.

The two men went on trial last month on charges of torturing two dissident students at a Libyan embassy residence in Bonn last December. Shortly before the trial began, Libya arrested eight West Germans in Tripoli and accused them of spying for the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

The arrests raised widespread speculation that Tripoli wanted to exert pressure on the Bonn trial by taking hostages.

The Bonn newspaper General-Anzeiger reported the government expected the eight West Germans held in Libya to be released in return for the deportation of the two Libyans.

In an unreported report, the paper said the government had justified its decision to deport the accused pair by arguing that "their continued presence could seriously damage the interests of the Federal Republic of Germany."

Last weekend, Libya freed four other West Germans serving long jail terms in exchange for the return of a Libyan serving life imprisonment for the murder of a former Libyan diplomat in 1980 in Bonn.

## 'U.S. may need German reservists'

BONN (R) — A West German newspaper said Friday the U.S. Defence Department has asked for 80,000 West German reserve soldiers to be made available to cover gaps in European defences if American forces are involved in fighting outside the NATO area.

The Bonn defence ministry, commenting on a statement issued by the daily Frankfurter Rundschau, told Reuters the paper was reporting preliminary discussions within NATO on which no decision had been made.

The paper said the question of the reservists would be further debated by NATO defence ministers at their spring meeting at the end of this month.

A West German-U.S. agreement covering "wartime host nation support" already requires the West German government, in case of war, to supply around 93,000 reservists for logistic tasks or protection of airfields for six additional divisions flown in from the U.S., the paper said.

The Frankfurter Rundschau said the study was concerned with contributions of the North Atlantic Alliance partners, above all the U.S., outside the NATO area and direct and indirect support to be supplied by other members.

The paper said that if the U.S. was, for example, involved in a conflict in South-West Asia, it might consider it necessary to withdraw troops from Europe that were originally provided for NATO defence.

Some of these troops could be "logistic" forces whose tasks should, according to the U.S., be taken over by around 80,000 logistic reservists of the West German army, the paper said.

## Managua claims to have repulsed rebel forces

MANAGUA (R) — Government troops have contained an attack by 500 rebels who invaded Nicaragua from Honduras, Nicaraguan junta leader Daniel Ortega said Friday night.

Mr. Ortega told a rally in southern Managua that two 250 rebel "task forces" poured into the area of Llanos Bawisa, in northern Zelaya Province, Friday. They were immediately contained by the army, he said.

A defence ministry communiqué said the army had broken the task forces into three groups, which were retreating towards Honduras.

Mr. Ortega's speech came on the heels of a Nicaraguan foreign ministry protest to Honduras.

The protest said the Nicaraguan border posts of Paraiso, La Ceiba, and La Cortez in the northern Chinandega Province were blasted at different times on Thursday by automatic gunfire from the Honduran side of the border. It added that Las Marias, also in Chinandega, had been bom-

barded with mortars from Honduran territory.

The protest note said the active participation of Honduran forces in attacks against Nicaragua only served to increase tension between the two countries.

Nicaragua was long accused of arming the rebels. Earlier this month, Nicaragua said it fended off an invasion attempt by 1,200 rebels from Honduras.

Mr. Ortega also said Washington actively backed Nicaraguan rebels in Costa Rica on the country's southern border.

"The United States with its absurd policy, its disrespectful policy... thinks it can create the same situation in Costa Rica as it has created in Honduras," he said.

Mr. Ortega said the rebels based in Costa Rica were being led by "the traitor" Eden Pastora, a hero of the 1979 revolution which deposed dictator Anastasio Somoza and brought Mr. Ortega and the Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN) to power.

## Big crowd demonstrates at Chilean boy's funeral

SANTIAGO (R) — About 2,000 people have attended the funeral of a 15-year-old boy shot dead by detectives on Wednesday night during street protests against Chile's military government.

While a large contingent of police looked on from a distance, many in the crowd shouted "murderers" and "Victor Rodriguez lives on" and sang the national anthem.

According to a police statement, Rodriguez was hit when two detectives opened fire after a crowd had stopped their car. The boy's family said he had gone out to buy bread.

A police statement Saturday said both detectives had been relieved of their duties and were being questioned.

Leaflets handed round at the funeral referred to President Augusto Pinochet as a murderer and said: "Youth will fight on."

In a separate incident on Wednesday night, 22-year-old Andres Fuentes was killed in the centre of Santiago. Police have given no explanation for his death. His relatives said he died when police opened fire on demonstrators.

The youths were killed at the end of a day of protest against the military government which has ruled Chile for almost 10 years.

## Spanish king visits Brazil

BRASILIA (R) — King Juan Carlos of Spain starts a week-long visit to Brazil Saturday which diplomatic sources say is part of a special mission to mark the 20th anniversary of the death of dictator Francisco Franco in 1975.

It could also be seen as a gesture of affinity towards Brazil's political liberalisation, which took a major step last November with the widest-ranging elections for over 20 years.

The Spanish delegation will include Foreign Minister Fernando Morán, who is interested in developing relations with Latin American countries, the sources said.

Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez, whose government was elected last October, expects to continue efforts to develop relations with a tour of Mexico, the Dominican Republic, Panama, Colombia and Venezuela in May or June, they said.

Brazil's efforts to return to democracy would clearly be viewed favourably by King Juan Carlos, considered in Spain to be one of the key components in the rebirth of democracy there since dictator Francisco Franco's death in 1975.

The king will meet Brazil's soldier-president General Joao Figueiredo, who has led the country's move towards "abertura" (political opening) since taking office in 1979.

King Juan Carlos will also be honoured by the national congress.

He plans to meet two opposition state governors elected in November — the leader of the Democratic Liberal Party, former Socialist firebrand Leonel Brizola from Rio de Janeiro, and centrist Franco Montoro of Sao Paulo, Brazil's richest and most populous state.

The king, accompanied by his wife Queen Sofia, will go on to Uruguay next Friday for two days before returning to Europe.

## Papal envoy in U.K. centred around CND controversy

LONDON (R) — The papal envoy to Britain, Monsignor Bruno Heim, has caused a major stir by seeming to question the good faith of the Roman Catholic priest who heads Britain's Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND).

Monsignor Heim said in a letter to members of the public that those who campaigned for unilateral nuclear disarmament, including CND General Secretary Monsignor Bruce Kent, may be "useful idiots", blinkered idealists or deliberate promoters of Soviet interests.

Nuclear weapons are one of the main issues in the campaign for the June 9 general election and Monsignor Heim's remarks were in line with the policy of the ruling Conservatives.

The Conservatives want to retain Britain's nuclear arsenal while the opposition Labour Party wants to scrap it.

Church officials were quick to distance themselves from Monsignor Heim's remarks and political sources said the pro-nuclearist was treading on very delicate ground by appearing to intervene in the nuclear debate.

Officials said the envoy's letter did not reflect the views of Cardinal Basil Hume, head of the Catholic Church in England.

An official Catholic spokesman, Father Kevin O'Connell, told Reuters: "This must be seen as expressing the private views of the promulgator and in no way reflects the views of the Cardinal or of the Vatican."

Kevin McNamara, a prominent Catholic layman and a Labour Member of the Parliament dis-

solved Friday, said:

"As he is the ambassador, he should not be interfering in the internal affairs of a sovereign state with which the Holy See has diplomatic relations."

"If he is acting as a priest giving his opinion he should not add to it the ambassadorial rank to bolster up a weak case. A great number of Catholics in Britain will resent the implications of his remarks."

The London Times quoted the Catholic bishop in East London, Monsignor Victor Guazzelli, as saying the terms of the letter were "hardly believable, in fact incredible."

The envoy's letter, dated May 4 and reproduced in part in the Times newspaper Saturday, said unilateralists were conducting a one-sided campaign.

It added: "Whether those doing so are consciously sharing the Soviet aggressiveness and ideology, or belong to the great number of the well known 'useful idiots', or, again, are blinkered idealists would have to be judged in individual cases, even in that of Bruce Kent."

Monsignor Kent, 53, has been general secretary of CND since 1980.

The post has already entangled him in considerable controversy. Last month Cardinal Hume said that if CND became more political the priest may have to give up his job to a layman and return to his parish.

Unlike their counterparts in the United States and West Germany, Roman Catholic bishops in Britain have not attempted to publish a pastoral letter on nuclear weapons.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

## U.N. blocks UNICEF calendar

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Two U.N. agencies have blocked distribution of a calendar which was produced as part of a campaign against infant powdered food and shows a different mother breast-feeding her baby on each page. The calendar was printed in Ireland for UNICEF, the U.N. Children's Fund, and the World Health Organisation, which adopted a resolution two years ago saying that "breast feeding is an important aspect of primary health care. The cover of the calendar bears the slogan "breast-feeding... the modern way" and miniature photographs of the ones that appear over each month inside. None of the women in the pictures is identified.

## Parking spree ends in 8 wrecked cars

YORK, England (R) — Seventy-eight-year-old Ethel Amet ran into trouble when she tried to claim the last empty space in a crowded car park. Seven other cars ended up with dented wings, bent bumpers and wrecked radiators. "I didn't think I'd hit as many as seven cars," she said. "But I've been told by my insurance company not to say anything else."

## Blonde left with false teeth

SHEFFIELD, England (R) — Debbie Fox wants to trace a toothless Romeo who left her holding his dentures in a disco. The 20-year-old blonde appealed to police to help her find the unknown admirer who vanished after asking her to take care of his false teeth while he went to the men's room. "I don't know why he wanted me to look after his gnashers," Debbie said. "But he should swallow his pride and come back to collect them."

## Baker fires the wrong kind of girl

GORING, England (R) — Coal merchant Lew Miles acted quickly when his daughter Louise told him tearfully that she had lost her job at the local baker's shop. He bought the bakery and installed her as boss. Now the previous owner turns out bread and cakes to the orders of 20-year-old Louise, whose father refused to say how much he paid for the shop in this Oxfordshire village.

## Housewife revolted by frozen frog

HADDENHAM, England (R) — A frog, frozen in a packet of peas, spawned a protest from irate housewife Irene Phillips. "It was the most revolting thing I have ever seen," she said after getting her money back from the local supermarket. "Even one of its legs was missing."

## Neil McDonagh becomes Zebedee

COMBER, Northern Ireland (R) — Neil McDonagh, tired of being listed among hundreds of Mac's in the telephone book, has changed his name to Zebedee Zzypp. "I wanted a name to end all names. One that just had to be the last in the directory," said Zzypp, 29, a catering manager in Comber near Belfast.

## Grocery sued for selling matches

MORRISTOWN, New Jersey (R) — A grocery shop is being sued for \$271,000 because it sold five books of matches to two young boys who started a fire that burned down a furniture warehouse. The suit was filed by the insurers of the warehouse against Vic's Market, where Walter Teabout, 9, and Jason Cray, 12, bought the matches.

## Stern newsmen occupy Hamburg headquarters

HAMBURG, West Germany (R) — Journalists at the West German magazine Stern have occupied the magazine's head office in Hamburg in protest against the appointment of two conservative journalists as editors-in-chief and publishers.

A spokesman for the journalists said they took over the office Friday night after a staff assembly issued an ultimatum to the magazine's owners, Gruner and Jahr, to rescind the appointment of Johannes Gross and Peter Scholl-Latour by 1200 GMT Sunday.

Gruner and Jahr named the two Friday to replace editors-in-chief Peter Koch and Felix Schmidt, who resigned last weekend over the forged "Hitler diaries" affair.

The Stern staff said in a resolution approved by 162 votes to two that the appointment of Gross and Scholl-Latour, both noted for their conservative views, threatened the editorial independence of the left-liberal weekly mag-

azine. Gross at present publishes the business magazine Capital and chairs one of West German television's best-known political talk shows.

Scholl-Latour, a veteran foreign correspondent, is chief of the Paris bureau of the West German television station ZDF.

Both men were due to meet Gruner and Jahr managers Saturday to discuss the row over their appointment.

Their predecessors, Koch and Schmidt, took responsibility for failing to detect that the purported diaries, which Stern began publishing last month, were faked.

The discovery of the forged shattered staff morale at the magazine and a staff spokesman said several senior journalists have threatened to resign.

The staff issued a statement last week apologising to readers for the publication of the fakes and several criticised the way senior editors had handled the affair.

## 'Cancer story an outrage'

WASHINGTON (R) — A White House spokesman said Saturday a report alleging that President Reagan's wife Nancy faced a cancer threat was "a lousy reporting job" and "an outrage."

The remarks by Deputy Press Secretary Larry Speakes were directed at a story in the New York Post headlined: "A new skin cancer peril for Nancy."

Mrs. Reagan had a lesion removed from her lip last December. Her dermatologist described it at the time as a low-grade skin cancer.

Mr. Speakes said Saturday the doctor told her she had non-

canerous spots on her hands and neck and should have them removed by non-surgical means as a precaution.

Saturday's story "is a lousy reporting job by the New York Post and its correspondent," Mr. Speakes said. "I think it is an outrage."

Mr. Speakes added that Mrs. Reagan's press secretary called the newspaper's reporter Friday night to give him the facts, but Mr. Speakes said the newspaper went ahead on the old theory of "don't let the facts get in the way of a story."

## Canberra to start belated Vietnam War inquiry

SYDNEY (R) — Australia's Labour government announced Saturday it would hold a wide-ranging inquiry into effects of chemical agents used during the Vietnam War.

Veterans Affairs Minister Arthur Gietzelt told a national congress of the Australian Vietnam Veterans Association that the report by a royal commission would be produced by June next year.

The royal commissioner, Mr. Justice Ewart of the federal court, would investigate the effects of herbicide, insecticide and defoliant sprays on Australian troops who fought in the Vietnam War and their families, he said.

About 45,000 Australian sol-

diers served in Vietnam. The period covered by the inquiry would last from July 31, 1962, to Jan. 11, 1973, when the Australians were withdrawn.

Mr. Gietzelt said the terms of reference for the inquiry included: — The nature, scale, purpose and manner of use of chemical agents.

— The periods during which chemical agents were used, the locations of use, their subsequent spread and the location from time to time of Australian troops.

— The extent to which adequate safety precautions were taken and the extent to which adequate action was taken when any possible harmful effect of chemical agents became known.

## Routine pandemonium irks stars, spectators, technicians at Cannes

CANNES, France (R) — The new Palais des Festivals, a formidable concrete structure spontaneously dubbed "the bunker" by this year's movie crowd, has thrown the Cannes film festival into disarray.

The vast, eight-level edifice was built to relieve pressure on the town's old film palace on the Mediterranean seafloor, as the Cannes event burgeoned over the years into the world's largest film festival.

Technical difficulties in the projection rooms have given rise to such improbable quirks at gala festival showings as pictures with no sound, heads cut off at the top of the screen or invisible subtitles.

Even the international crowd of screen giants — Sophia Loren, Robert de Niro, Liza Minnelli, among many others — have been somewhat upstaged by the new hall this year.

With 30,000 spectators converging daily on the festival, organisers of the event are facing calls during screenings, a threatened walkout by film technicians and the possibility that top directors may pull their films out of competition.

Built on the site of the former luxurious Cannes casino, the new rose-coloured building lacks both the intimacy and the convenience of the old film palace, located amid elegant cafes along the palm-studded Avenue de la Croisette.

Inside the hall, as one disgruntled visitor said, "it's like being lost in a maze that a Martian might have invented."

With a total surface of 60,000 square metres and an incomprehensible system of above and below-ground levels, the general atmosphere is one of being lost in a vast train station.

One journalist reported spending an entire day looking for the second level, since buttons on the lift went from first to third level with no explanation.

As a result of the disorder, festival goers took an attempted assault on the hall by some 2,000 medical student demonstrators on Wednesday as so much comic relief. The fortresslike bunker, the black tie crowd quipped, had finally found its calling.

"We are holding the festival in a building that was constructed not

for a film festival but as a congress hall", festival President Robert Favre le Bret said, acknowledging the technical troubles at a hastily arranged press conference.

Security at the sprawling building has also been a problem, with crowds of onlookers elbowing their way past an imposing contingent of guards with dogs in hopes of a glance at a star.

Despite five bodyguards and 15 policemen, French screen goddess Catherine Deneuve nearly fainted in the crush as she attempted to get inside for a showing of her new film, "The Hunger", on Tuesday.

Rock idol David Bowie, her co-star in the modernised vampire movie, had to fight his way out of the following night.

Taken at first in the spirit of a Marx brothers style gag, the difficulties with the new environment have caused mounting irritation among spectators and members of the film industry.

Directors Robert Bresson of France and Marco Ferreri of Italy threatened in mid-week to block screenings of their films and projectionists said they would strike if the problems were not cleared up.